The Middlebury Campus

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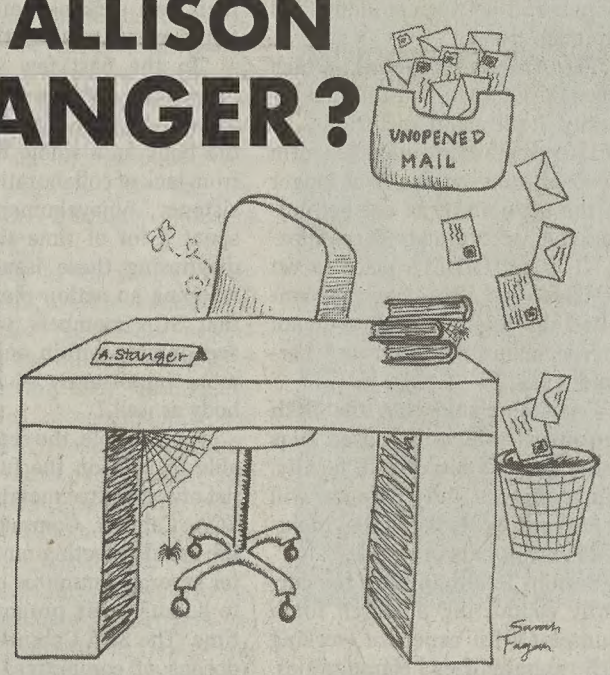
WHERE IN THE WORLD IS ALLISON STANGER?



SARAH FAGAN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By NORA PEACHIN
News Editor

Political Science Professor Allison Stanger has begun her third year of academic leave from Middlebury. With minimal communication as to her whereabouts, students continue to wonder if and when she will return.

Currently a technology and human values senior fellow at Harvard University's Edmund J. Safra Center for Ethics, Stanger is "working on projects of her own," according to Harvard Fellowships and Programs Manager Emily Bromley. Bromley was unable to provide further details of Stanger's work at Harvard, but said "we are thrilled to have her here with us."

Stanger is also a visiting professor with Harvard's Department of Government, and will be teaching a course on the politics of virtual realities in the spring.

At the end of what was intended to be a two-year leave, Stanger disclosed plans to remain off campus for a third consecutive year in an email to the Middlebury Political Science faculty and staff. In the email, she announced her fellowship and visiting professorship, adding that she would also be a faculty fellow at the Ash Center for Democratic Governance at the Kennedy School of Government.

Stanger's official leave began in the fall of 2017, the semester

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Appointed by Trump, Callanan joins National Council on Humanities

By SABINE POUX
Editor in Chief

Political Science Professor Keegan Callanan became a fully-tenured Political Science professor last May, but that wasn't the only highlight of his summer.

Fifteen months after he was nominated by President Donald Trump, Callanan has joined the National Council of the Humanities (NCH), a board of 26 private citizens that advises the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in its allocation of funding for a gamut of humanities programs.

Callanan was sworn in by the council's chairman at a small ceremony in Washington D.C. four days before classes began at Middlebury. He will serve until 2024, convening with the council three times annually to discuss and vote on grant applications.

The NEH functions without input from the President, but nominations originate in the Oval Office. Callanan was among the 15 freshmen council members nominated by Trump in 2018 and confirmed by the Senate in August.

There's no way to know for certain how his name ended up on the President's desk, but Callanan said the White House usually casts a wide net when scouting individuals to fill these positions.

"I was recommended to Presidential Personnel by several people close to the administration," he wrote in an email to The Campus. When asked if he knew who had recommended him, he said, "A variety of friends and acquaintances in Washington helped in the nomination and confirmation processes."

The White House Presidential Personnel Office reached out to Callanan in early 2018 to ask for an interview, and then he was vetted — a lengthy process that included a full FBI background check and a 35-page questionnaire for the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

COURTESY PHOTO
Polical Science Professor Keegan Callanan.

Callanan's name was then sent to the full Senate. On Aug. 2 of this year, he was confirmed.

Other new appointees include David Armand DeKeyser, a previous U.S. Senate chief of staff for Jeff Sessions and Bob Corker; Noël Valis, a Spanish professor at Yale; Kim R. Holmes, the executive vice president of the Heritage Foundation and a former assistant secretary of state; and Bowdoin Professor of Social Sciences Jean Yarbrough, who taught Callanan when he was an undergraduate at Bowdoin and also spoke at Middlebury last spring.

Members are supposed to serve six-year terms, but D.C. gridlock can prolong transitions between council members. Christopher Merrill '79, for example, served an expired term three years past his due. Merrill, who majored in English at Middlebury and worked at the Bread Loaf Writers Conference, is the director of the International Writing Program at the

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SHIRLEY MAO/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
PALANA hopes to use its new, larger living space in Palmer house to host community dinners and residential events.

PALANA finds home in Palmer

By RACHEL LU
Contributing Writer

PALANA's first party in its new digs was a resounding success —by the end of the night, people crowded on the back porch to join the excitement.

Starting this year, PALANA (Pan-African, Latino, Asian and Native American) is recognized by Community Council as an official social house, and has been granted a new, larger living space in Palmer House, previously reserved for superblocks.

"PALANA has grown into a bigger community, so we needed a bigger space to live and create the environment we wanted to see," said Jayla Johnson '21, a PALANA member and resident of the new house.

Johnson said PALANA envisions itself as a "multi-cultural innovation hub" where everyone feels welcome. According to some of its newer members, this vision has already proved successful.

"PALANA is a space to come and decompress from the stresses that we face during the academic school day," said Kayla Richards '22, a member of the new pledge class. "Community is the first word that comes to mind."

Richards said she also appreciated "not feeling like you're being watched or expected to say the right thing when talking about certain issues and just be people."

PALANA was first established in 1991 as the Black and Latino Bi-Cultural Center in Fletcher House. Later, it was moved to Carr Hall, which now houses the Anderson Freeman Resource Center, and renamed with its current moniker. Until this year, PALANA had been an academic special interest house at 97 Adirondack View.

PALANA has long served as a sanctuary for marginalized students at Middlebury and has formed a significant part of its members' college experience.

"The people in PALANA are the only ones I really connected with, and I felt close to," said Luis Daza '22, a member of the new pledge class. Daza said he joined the organization knowing that he is supporting the work of his friends.

When PALANA's physical space could no longer accommodate the house's growing membership, its members appealed to Community Council for a bigger place to host activities and social events.

According to Tre Stephens '21, president of PALANA, the process

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Hundreds protest New England's largest coal power plant

By BENJAMIN GLASS
Local Editor

Activists flocked to the Merrimack Generating Station on Saturday, Sept. 28 to protest the station's continued use of coal fired steam generation. One of the last major power plants in the Northeast to use coal fuel, Merrimack Station has been frequently protested by environmental activists for the last year. Middlebury students in attendance were Asa Skinder-Richardson '22.5, Cooper Lamb '22.5, Caleb Green '19.5, Malia Armstrong '22.5 and many others. No Middlebury students were arrested.

Protest organizers included the Climate Disobedience Center (CDC) and 350 New Hampshire, with affiliates like 350 Vermont, Vermont Climate Strike and Middlebury College's Sunday Night Environmental Group (SNEG).

Among the hundreds of demonstrators present on Saturday, the most significant were a group of activists that trespassed onto the station's property in an act of civil disobedience. Many of them acted in collaboration with the #BucketbyBucket No

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EMMANUEL TAMARAT/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Asa Skinder '22.5 attended the protest against the Merrimack coal plant in Bow, N.H. last Saturday.

With few returning senators, a new SGA looks ahead

By PORTER BOWMAN
SGA Correspondent

Last year's Student Government Association Senate ended in the spring with threats of dissolution. Now, the new SGA is hoping to move in a different direction.

Only three members of last spring's senate — current President Varsha Vijayakumar '20 and Senior Senators Anthony Salas '20 and John Gosselin '20, who voted on the senate as a Community Council co-chair — are still on the SGA this fall. The rest of this semester's senators were not in office last spring when the senate created its "13 Proposals for Community Healing," many of which followed frustrations about slow progress on several issues between students and the administration. The proposals were announced in a school-wide email on Apr. 23 in the wake of the cancellation of a controversial talk from Ryszard Legutko, a far-right Polish politician, and were written with input gathered from the wider student body at a town hall a week later.

After the administration's initial response to several of the proposals — which included a tentative commitment to add a student delegate to the Board of Trustees and increase student representation in the administration's Senior Leadership Group — the Senate decided not to dissolve in their last meeting of the semester.

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MAX PADILLA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
SGA President Varsha Vijayakumar '20 presiding over a senate meeting earlier this fall.

NEWS

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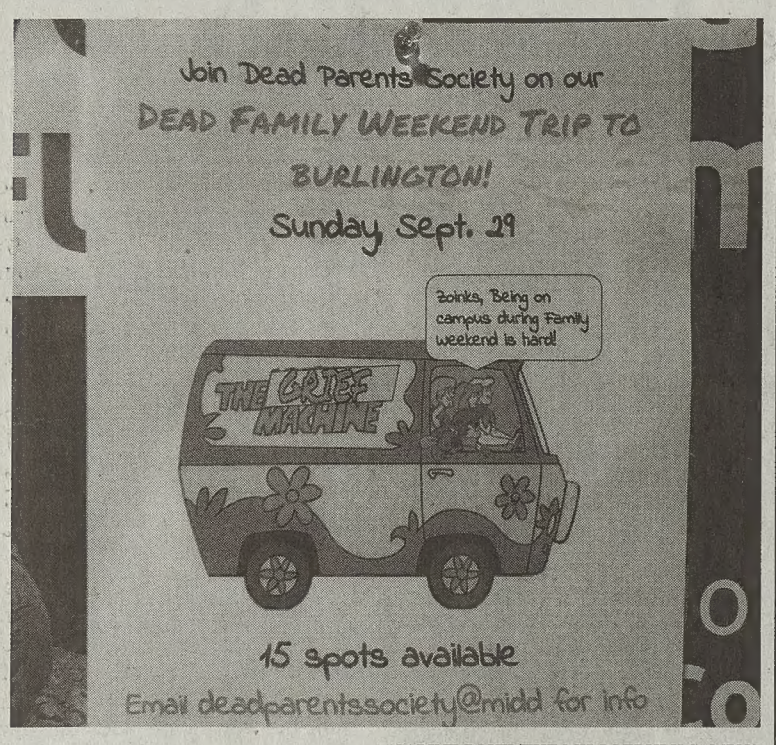
ARTS & ACADEMICS

SPORTS


Join Dead Parents Society on our
DEAD FAMILY WEEKEND TRIP TO BURLINGTON!
Sunday Sept. 29
Zoinks, Being on campus during Family weekend is hard!
15 spots available
Email deadparentssociety@midd for info

SABINE POUX/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

A poster in Proctor Dining Hall advertised the trip to the Ben & Jerry's factory in Waterbury and a dinner in Burlington.

Dead Parents Society finds alternative to family weekend festivities

By GRACE GILLOOLY
Contributing Writer

During Fall Family Weekend at Middlebury, sports games, pumpkin-carving and art museum exhibitions are just some of the many events that families can attend. While the weekend serves as a joyous reunion for students and their loved ones, the event can also be a painful time for students who have lost parents.

The Dead Parents Society — a student organization that offers a support network and community for students who have lost loved ones — scheduled a weekend getaway from campus amid the abundant parent- and family-oriented activities. The Sunday of family weekend, Jilly Dos Santos '19.5, president of the society, led ten members to the Ben & Jerry's factory in Waterbury. They also explored a pumpkin orchard and had dinner in Burlington.

"It can be hard to see everyone's parents coming up and doing things when you might not have them yourself," Dos Santos said. "Answering questions like, 'Are your parents coming up?' can get awkward. We don't shy away from answering those questions because that is just the reality of life."

The Dead Parents Society, founded by Tabitha Mueller '18, Maddie Stewart-Boldin '18.5, Silas Keeter '18.5 and Joe Dempsey '18, was conceived as a support group for bereaved students to come together and air their grief.

Member Mia Pangasnan '23 feels the value of the Dead Parents Society comes from relating to peers who have experienced similar loss in their lives.

"It's not a therapy group at all. We all talk about our experiences and the little microaggressions that we hear when people ask us certain questions," Pangasnan said. "As serious as the matter is, we all really relate to each other and therefore, we're able to make jokes that we probably wouldn't be able to make with other people."

In discussing the obvious distress associated with their membership, students use comedy and sarcasm to lighten the mood and create a sense of hope and community within the group. Members joked about the Ben & Jerry's Flavor Graveyard, referencing their collective experiences with death.

Despite the tragic circumstances that unite the group, members describe the club culture as one of honesty and authenticity.

Pangasnan feels this trip is an important alternative to staying on campus.

"If you have no parents, a single parent, or [are] in circumstances where parents aren't able to come to Parents' Weekend, you really have no one here," Pangasnan said. "So many of the activities are focused on bringing your parents to this and that, bringing your dog to the Snow Bowl, and the people who have lost parents can't really do that."

In this environment, there is no necessity to appear strong, Pangasnan said. This group and the trip intend to create a space where people can be completely emotionally transparent.

"On this trip, we don't have to pretend with each other. If we're not okay because of Parents' Weekend, we can talk about how we're not okay," Pangasnan said.

The Dead Parents Society offers regular meeting times, every other Tuesday from 8–9 p.m. in Gifford Annex Lounge.

Dos Santos emphasized that students seeking professional help with grief should go to Parton or CSAC for individual therapy, or attend Parton's monthly grief group hosted by a professional counselor. However, for students who are also looking for a peer-created space to discuss loss, the Dead Parent Society is open to all.

"We will probably be doing another event toward the end of the semester on campus, so people can be on the lookout for that," Dos Santos said. "You don't have to come to every meeting, you don't ever have to come again if you don't like it, and it's just a fun space for community."

'13 Proposals' status update

New SGA resolves several proposals with administration, pursues new leadership tactics

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Status update

Several of the 13 Proposals have been completed as written in the original statement, including the **second proposal**, which called for a student, staff member and faculty member to each be appointed as representatives to the College Board of Overseers. The College Board of Overseers is one of three committees within the Board of Trustees; there is also a board for the Middlebury Institute of International Studies and one for the Language Schools, Schools Abroad and Bread Loaf School of English.

Vijayakumar, Associate Vice President for Advancement Operations Jami Black and History Professor William Hart were elected by the student body, Staff Council and Faculty Council, respectively, to serve as the three representatives to the board. Each representative will report back to their constituents following board meetings.

Saif Panday '21 joined Wengel Kifle '20 as a student representative on the Community Bias Response Team (CBRT), addressing the **ninth proposal's** call for more student representation on the team.

Addressing the second half of that same proposal, which demanded more direct communication after the cancellation of campus events, Chief Diversity Officer Miguel Fernández explained that the request does not fall under the job description of his office.

"Cancellation of campus events is not a bias incident and thus does not fall under the purview of CBRT, so we will not be sending out such communications," he said.

The college is offering a Black Studies major for the first time this fall, which was called for in the **13th proposal** and has been in the works for several years. The major, led by History Professor Bill Hart and American Studies Professor J. Finley, came as a combined result of academic planning by faculty and administration, as well as renewed student campaigns in support of the program.

Several other efforts related to the proposals are in the works. Fernández said President Laurie Patton has plans to appoint an ad hoc working group in the next few weeks to look into an LGBTQ+ center, which was the **10th proposal**.

"Movement on this center was stimulated by a student desire for programming, support, and mentoring for queer and trans students on campus," he said. "I would say it was student-driven."

Elisa Gan '20 was nominated to be the the Student Liaison to the SGA on Endowment Affairs (SLSEA). This came after a weeks-long nomination process, in which Gan was approved by the Senate during its meeting on Sunday, Sept. 22. Gan will be a non-voting member of the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees, has full access to information about the endowment, and will report back to the SGA on how the school's endowment is being invested.

The Senior Leadership Group (SLG) will be creating student advisory committees for each administrator in the group in response to the **first proposal**. This move will help bring in more student perspective to the work of the administration, and help improve cooperation between students and administrators.

The **third proposal**, which asked the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (OIDEI) to create a due diligence form for speaker invitations, is no longer on the table and was deemed unworkable, according to Fernández.

"It is not OIDEI's place to vet speakers. My office was not consulted ahead of time and we do not foresee taking on this role," Fernandez said.

Fernández said that the **fifth proposal**, which proposed bias training for all hired staff, faculty, administrators and students, will be covered by Renee Wells' Inclusive Practitioners program.

Parton Health Center is currently conducting a search for a counselor with expertise working with marginalized communities, which was the **12th proposal**.

Administrators did not respond to comment on the progress of several other proposals. These include the proposals centered around communication from the administration about ongoing proposal progress, revisiting the protest policy, improvements to the Green Dot program, making all buildings ADA accessible and making all organizational expenditures available on the college website (the **fourth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and 11th proposals**, respectively).

A spokesperson from student government said some of the above proposals are in the works.

A change in tone

Vijayakumar, who was serving as a junior senator last spring when the proposals were issued, has decided not to focus her presidency on their completion.

"Frustration about the lack of student voice included in decision-making processes that will significantly impact our campus culture and student life was, is and should be warranted," Vijayakumar said. "That being said, this new SGA has worked hard to lay the groundwork for a significant shift in approach that will focus on earning student support and attacking problems on our campus through a more analytical and pragmatic lens."

This new approach has been welcomed by administrators, some of whom felt the way last year's SGA presented the proposals was unreasonable.

"The administration did not sign off on the 13 Proposals," Fernandez said. "This administration believes in dialogue and does not take well to demands. And let's be honest, these proposals were demands."

As Vijayakumar worked over the summer to construct a new approach to achieve the SGA's goals, this was very present in her mind as she built her cabinet, set initiatives and planned for the year to come.

Her approach has been apparent in the first several meetings this year, and she has emphasized the importance of cooperation, accountability and responsibility amongst the entire body. Vijayakumar and her chief of staff, Drew Platt '20.5, have stressed in recent meetings that representatives need to hold themselves accountable to their own personal initiatives and to the overall goals of the SGA.

"In the past few years many individual members within SGA have done a lot of good work, but the body as a whole has suffered from lack of collaboration and consistency," Vijayakumar said. "We spent a lot of time this summer diagnosing these issues and developing an action plan to ensure that SGA members will be held accountable within our body, and more importantly to the student body as well."

For example, the senate was unable to vote on the full proposed list of committee members of every SGA Cabinet Committee during the senate meeting on Sept. 30 after several committee chairs failed to submit their proposed lists on time. The SGA Cabinet consists of dozens of committees that touch every aspect of student life, from athletics to sexual respect.

Vijayakumar called out these unnamed cabinet committee chairs who "didn't pull their weight" and caused the delay to the approval process. After Vijayakumar set a new deadline, the senate voted Monday to approve the lists of committee members.

The heightened focus of the cabinet, which had taken a backseat in previous administrations, has led to greater responsibility, support, and accountability for appointed cabinet directors from Vijayakumar and her executive team.

Vijayakumar said she and her staff are holding cabinet leaders to a higher standard.

"We have implemented several new accountability measures to ensure that these cabinet committees are more effective than they have been in the past," Vijayakumar said. "As a result we are confident that the initiatives inspired by the proposals are in the hands of the people that are most dedicated to making tangible progress on those issues."

Vijayakumar has also sought to improve the underlying issue that drove the 13 Proposals, namely a lack of cooperation between students and the administration. She hopes to improve that relationship to make her SGA as productive as possible.

"Students should also expect a new level of collaboration with the administration," Vijayakumar said. "They have proven themselves to be more open to student input than ever before, and we are excited to work together in efforts to make this campus a better place for students to study and live."

For an example, she pointed to an event led by Fernández that will bring more clarity to the faculty hiring process and how that translates to hiring a more diverse faculty. The event, which will take place on Oct. 16, was organized by members of the Cabinet together with Fernández and the OIDEI.

"The fireworks that we saw towards the end of last year represented justified emotions but ultimately did not serve as a means to build consensus or lasting change," Vijayakumar said. "We have been very conscious of that as we set out our plans to shift SGA culture this year."

Stanger spends third year of leave at Harvard

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after students shut down a lecture by controversial speaker Charles Murray. Stanger had been slated to mediate the Q&A with Murray, which she eventually did when the lecture moved to a livestream format following disruption from the protesters.

When the pair exited the venue, Stanger was jostled by a crowd. She suffered a concussion and neck injury.

The faculty handbook states that sabbaticals can last either six months or a full year, but does not make mention of two- or three-year leaves.

"When there are extraordinary opportunities faculty have the capacity to extend their leaves," Dean of Faculty Sujata Moorti told The Campus.

Moorti did not say whether Stanger was on paid leave, since the matter is "relate[d] to confidential personnel information."

Akhila Roy Chowdhury '20, one of Stanger's former advisees, has received minimal information about Stanger's absence.

"When I asked Professor Stanger to be my advisor, she told me she was planning on taking a year's sabbatical," Roy Chowdhury said. "It was only when I got back from the summer did I find out it was for two. I heard from a student and not the department."

Roy Chowdhury said the department was otherwise supportive, and she was able to find a new advisor to take Stanger's place.

"I've tried to get in touch with Professor Stanger but despite sending her multiple emails, have never received a response," she said.

Political Science Department Chair Erik Bleich said the department has had to adjust to accommodate Stanger's absence.

"She teaches a number of very popular courses in our department," Bleich said. "We've been lucky to have Professor Felicia Grey join us for the three years of Professor Stanger's time away from campus."

Grey has been filling the department's course offerings as a visiting professor in the international relations subfield, Stanger's area of expertise.

Political Science Professor Kemi Fuentes-George said that the department has been able to offer more options for the International Politics course with Grey on the faculty, but that the college has not been able to offer Stanger's American Foreign Policy course since her leave.

"My knowledge about her plans is and has been extremely minimal," Fuentes-George added.

Stanger has made a host of public appearances since her leave. In the immediate wake of the Charles Murray incident, Stanger wrote op-eds, spoke on panels and at conferences, and testified before a U.S. Senate committee about free speech on college campuses. Most recently, Stanger has been promoting her new book, "Whistleblowers: Honesty in America from Washington to Trump," which she released on Sept. 24.

The book was coincidentally released the same day that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced a formal impeachment inquiry against President Donald Trump, following a whistleblower complaint that detailed conversations between Trump and the president of Ukraine about Joe Biden and his son, Hunter Biden.

The day after the book's release, Stanger published a piece about whistleblowers in The Atlantic and was interviewed about her book on NPR. Stanger told Vermont's WCAX-TV in an interview posted on Sunday that she believes whistleblowing is "heroic, and a bipartisan, American duty necessary to keep our nation's elites honest and our democracy intact."

Stanger's fellowship at Harvard is scheduled to end on May 31, 2020. According to Political Science Department Coordinator Linda Booska, Stanger plans to return to campus next year.

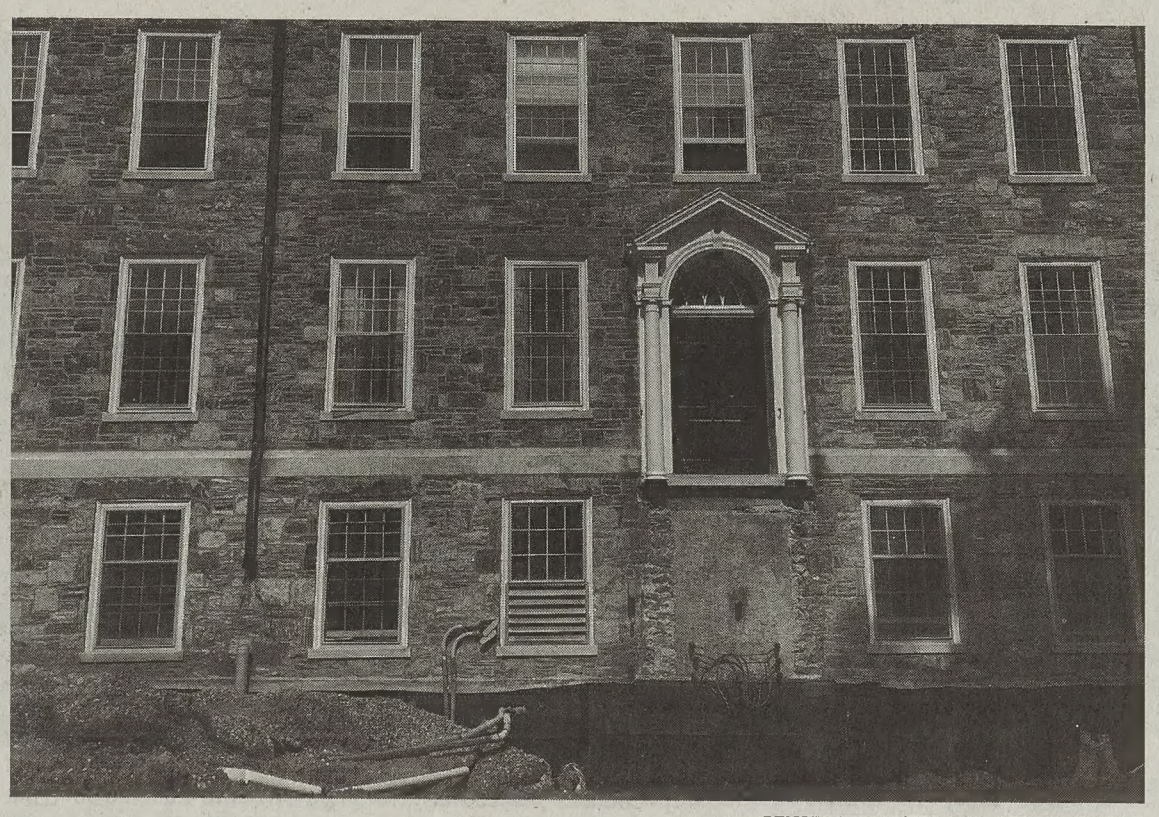
Stanger did not respond to repeated requests for comment.

COURTESY PHOTO

Political Science Professor Allison Stanger spoke on WCAX-TV this week about her new book and the Trump impeachment inquiry.

Restructured Disability Resource Center reflects changing attitudes toward accessibility and inclusivity

By SOPHIA MCDERMOTT-HUGHES
Contributing Writer



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Munroe Hall undergoes construction in part to comply with ADA standards. The newly restructured Disability Resource Center is expanding its scope beyond coordinating ADA compliance, and will now 'advocate for and provide services to' students with disabilities.

In a move hailed by advocates of students with disabilities as part of an important cultural and ideological shift, the Student Accessibility Services moved out of the risk management department and into the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Inclusion as of this academic year. The office was also renamed the Disability Resource Center (DRC).

According to the center's website, the DRC "provides confidential services and reasonable accommodations for students who have needs affecting their learning, vision, hearing, speech, mobility, and physical and psychological health." The DRC also helps faculty and staff provide these accommodations, and trains them to work with students with disabilities.

The DRC's former home in the risk management department reflected an institutional view of students with disabilities as legal obligations and potential lawsuits, said Renee Wells, director of education for equity and inclusion. Relocating the office suggests a welcome shift from that mindset.

Wells explained that previously, the Student Accessibility Services viewed measures improving accessibility in terms of complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), rather than as meaningful opportunities to make the campus more accessible and inclusive for all students.

"While Student Accessibility Services and the ADA coordinators have always had the primary responsibility for coordinating disability accommodations for students, the DRC's scope is more expansive," Marti McCaleb, civil rights and Title IX coordinator, said in an email to The Campus. "It's made up of a number of people and entities on campus that advocate for and provide services to students with disabilities."

The departmental reorganization, which happened simultaneously with restructuring of the Title IX office, is part of a larger effort to change the way Middlebury approaches issues of accessibility, Wells said.

"It's largely about helping [the college] make that sort of ideological shift from seeing disability as a problem that an individual has, to being a cultural problem with whom we have imagined in our spaces and whom we haven't," Wells said.

The organizational change comes as Middlebury aims to improve life and services for students with disabilities, including making sure that everyone who needs help is receiving it.

After one of the ADA coordinators changed jobs in July, the remaining ADA coordinator, Jodi Litchfield, serves 375 students at Middlebury and 10 more in programs abroad. According to Litchfield, the DRC is in the midst of hiring a second ADA coordinator to help provide aid to more students.

The DRC provides services to the one in seven Middlebury students who self-report as having some type of disability, according to McCaleb.

"It's likely that there are many more students with disabilities on campus than have come forward," Litchfield said.

To address the disparity, McCaleb said, "I would like to find new ways to reach out to students to make sure that no one with a disability experiences unnecessarily barriers or hurdles to their education or their life on campus."

Wells believes that one of the biggest challenges students face is the stigma surrounding disabilities. Other students may view these measures as unfair advantages and faculty can resent the extra effort required on their part, according to Wells.

The DRC grants letters of accommodation to students with disabilities. But those students must then meet with their professors and advocate for themselves, which can create uncomfortable power dynamics, according to Kamli Faour '21, one of two student representatives to the Advisory Group on Diversity, Accessibility and Inclusion (ADGAI).

Wells also emphasized the importance of thinking proactively and designing physical and educational spaces for people of all abilities instead of making individual accommodations after the fact.

To this end, Wells aims to use the new Inclusive Practitioners Program workshops — a series of workshops for faculty and staff about bias and diversity — to help shift the way faculty and staff view disability and educate them on creating inclusive and accessible spaces.

McCaleb also plans to expand on Wells' training in her own work.

"I also hope to be able to provide more education and training to faculty on how to support students with disabilities in their classes, and how to create more adaptive, inclusive learning environments," McCaleb said.

With the help of the AGDAI, Wells' office is creating a five-year diversity, equity and inclusion plan that will address accessibility issues.

"In the longer term, we will continue to work closely with AGDAI on new campus initiatives and advocate for ongoing improvements to facilities and technologies to create a more accessible campus," McCaleb said.

"There are a lot of barriers to accessibility and accessible learning at this school," Faour said. "Ultimately I don't know if it's possible to accommodate everyone ...[but] we need to be actively doing the best that we can to improve the lives of individuals on this campus."

Professor will help allocate federal humanities funding

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University of Iowa. He was appointed to the council in 2012 by then-president Barack Obama.

Merrill attributed the delays to backlogs in the Senate confirmation process.

"In my time, the council members who were appointed under the Bush administration and then the Obama administration went through very extensive background checks, then the nominations just sat on the Senate side for a very long time," he said. "Most of the people I was serving with were serving on expired terms, waiting for the Senate to act."

Merrill said that in his experience, members appointed during Democratic and Republican administrations "have gotten along quite well." Callanan said the NEH has not had a reputation for partisanship under any administration.

"This is probably because the grant-making process relies heavily, although not exclusively, on peer review," he said. Peer reviewers read all applications before they head to the council, although council members are not required to follow reviewers' recommendations.

According to the NEH site, the agency has issued more than $5.6 billion in funding since its inception over 50 years ago. The NEH is one of Middlebury's major federal funding sources.

Various college faculty have benefited from the endowment's summer stipend program, for example, which awards up to $6,000 for individual scholars to pursue summer research projects. Religion Professor Jennifer Ortegren is a recent beneficiary. She is slated to begin research on her project, entitled "New Neighbors, New Muslims: Gender, Class, and Community in Contemporary India," next summer.

The NEH also funds institutional grants for projects involving more than one faculty member. In 2015, 2017 and 2018, Jason Mittell and Christian Keathley of the Film and Media Culture department ran summer workshops with NEH grants. Research for the sophomore seminar on "the good life" was also funded by the NEH.

To avoid conflicts of interest, Callanan has recused himself from all grants connected to Middlebury and Princeton University, where he completed a fellowship in 2017–2018.

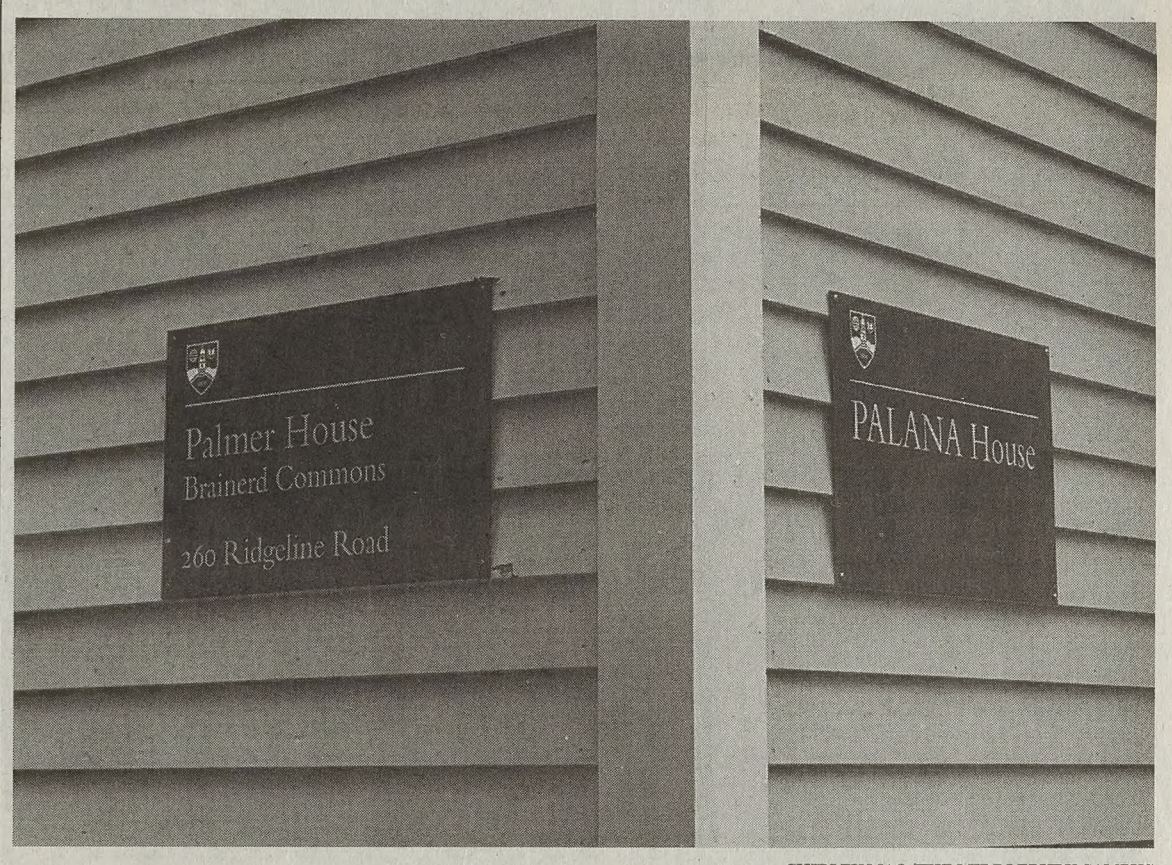
The NCH also selects winners for the Jefferson Lecture in the Humanities and manages the nomination process for winners of the National Humanities Medal. Trump, however, has not yet awarded any National Humanities Medals during his presidency. By contrast, the medal has been awarded every year since its inception until 2016.

"It's always been a wonderful thing, Trump's just done away with it," Merrill said. "It's clear his interest in the arts and the humanities is nil."

In March, Trump proposed severe cuts to the NEH's budget for the third year in a row. Congress has previously rejected Trump's suggested cuts, and is yet to approve next year's proposed budget.

NCH meetings take place in December, March and July, with occasional teleconferences occurring throughout the year. The majority of these meetings fall during breaks in the college's academic calendar.

PALANA grounds community in new, larger house



SHIRLEY MAO/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Pan-African Latino Asian Native American (PALANA) welcomed its first class as a social house last fall, and now occupies Palmer House. The new space will allow PALANA to host larger social events.

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of becoming a social house was time-consuming and involved a lot of planning, but Community Council was overall supportive of PALANA's ideas.

"PALANA itself has served many functions throughout its time here," Stephens said. "I think the [Community Council] knew it wanted to give us Palmer, but it wasn't sure if we were actually about it. We definitely showed them that we are."

Members of PALANA hope the new space will prompt increased inclusivity at Middlebury. In the previous eight-person house, according to Stephens, the tight-knit group of PALANA members who lived together became closed off to the rest of the organization, due in part to the intimacy of the small space.

In its transition to social house, PALANA leadership knew it needed to change the atmosphere to welcome more people.

"This has become a place for people of all different backgrounds — and not just racial diversity. It is a predominantly POC [people of color] space, and that is really important because there are a lot of people on this campus who feel like they can't interact in the social atmospheres," house resident Christian Kummer '22 said. "We are not trying to isolate ourselves from the community. People here care about inclusivity and talking about it based on our experiences."

> "I feel like without PALANA as a space, a huge part of myself would be lost."
>
> *Kayla Richards '22*

A few weeks into living in the new house, PALANA's members are already feeling its impact. PALANA members agreed that Palmer had previously been a predominantly white space on campus. With PALANA's new location, its members feel more comfortable being around the other social houses in the area because they have a place to claim as their own.

"Culture is a part of identity, and PALANA is a place I get to share in other people's cultures and where I am surrounded by my culture, too," Richards said. "I feel like without PALANA as a space, a huge part of myself would be lost. I would feel like there is a war between who I am and how I've grown up and how I'm expected to be while at Middlebury."

According to Stephens, PALANA will release its official events calendar soon. PALANA leadership hopes to host community dinners and residential events for people to interact with each other.

However, its members also hope to keep their new space casual, spontaneous and full of surprises, to preserve the comfort of their living environment.

"We are not going to go out there and spread the word. It's an open space where people can come to us and learn, but we're not going to do all the emotional labor and spread the word about being POC, because everyone has very different experiences," house resident Alondra Carmona '21 said.

Stephens encourages students to come visit and explore the space.

"It is a place where not only under-prepresented students at Middlebury go to chill out and live, it is a home away from home," he said. "Anyone is welcome here."

Middlebury students protest in solidarity with Bow, N.H. climate activists

Continued from Page 1

Coal No Gas campaign, under which most were suited up in Tyvek suits carrying five gallon buckets with the goal of collecting buckets of coal. In mid-August, activists removed 500 pounds of coal from Merrimack Station and dumped it at the New Hampshire State House to increase political action against the plant.

On Saturday, Bow Police heavily enforced the station's property boundaries, and 67 participants were consequently arrested for criminal trespassing, according to a Press Release from the Bow Police Department late that afternoon. Arrests were made between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m with no injuries or damages reported.

In an act of solidarity with activists risking arrest, a group of 300 people gathered by Merrimack Station's gate. Among the participants were several Middlebury students, including Claire Contreras '22.5 and Cora Kircher '20. Both said that the gathering was as much about demonstrating solidarity with those risking arrest as it was about celebrating the movement towards ending the use of fossil fuels.

"A lot of the energy was channeled into making the environment feel supportive for people who were putting themselves at risk in a pretty scary way," Kircher said. "It was also part of a larger celebration too."

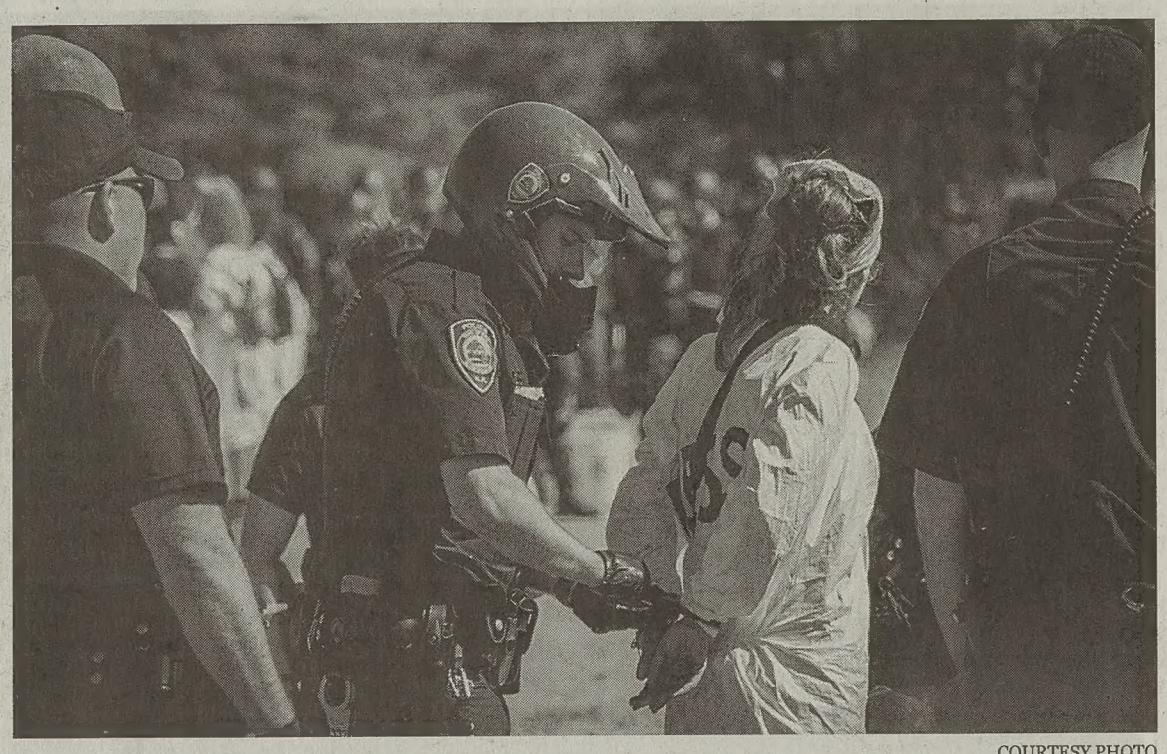
Contreras felt similarly. "It was pretty inspiring seeing people come from all over the east coast," she said. "There was a lot of singing and chanting, amazing speakers, [and] a sense of solidarity for the people putting themselves on the line for a cause we all believe in- which is to end the age of fossil fuels."

Protests lasted through mid-afternoon, with riot police present to control those attempting to further trespass. "The images of [the protests] speak for themselves," Kircher said. "I personally had never seen that big a police force for an action that was nonviolent. It's mindboggling that they hired two helicopters, a private security force and had state police in riot gear to take down people in white suites protesting injustice."

In a statement released from Bow Police, Chief of Police Margaret Lougee said: "The Town of Bow would like to thank our local, county, regional and state partners for their assistance in ensuring that safety remained the top priority for our community, and all those who gathered at the Merrimack Station."

Granite Shore Power, owner of Merrimack Station and four other generating stations in New Hampshire, said in a press release that although they support the views of those demonstrating, Saturday's trespassing was seen by them as an act to make a scene. Merrimack Station is the largest of all five owned by Granite Shore Power, with full operating power at 482 MegaWatts. Granite Shore Power did not respond to The Campus' request for a further statement.

Saturday's protest capped a week of climate striking across the U.S., including climate strikes on Friday, Sept. 20 in Vermont towns and cities such as Brattleboro, Burlington, Lyndon, Middlebury and Montpelier.



COURTESY PHOTO

Sixty-seven people were arrested on Saturday for criminal trespassing, according a statement from the Bow Police Department. A group of activists were detained after crossing property lines onto the Merrimack Generating Station, one of the last power stations in the Northeast to use coal-fired steam generation.

EMMANUEL TAMRAT/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Around 300 demonstrators gathered at the edge of the Merrimack Station property, engaging in song and speech. They stood in solidarity with those risking arrest on Saturday.

EMMANUEL TAMRAT/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Demonstrators, dressed in Tyvek suits and carrying 5 gallon buckets, walked onto the property of Merrimack Generating Station and were subsequently arrested for criminal trespassing.

Ilsley Public Library trains staff to administer Narcan

By ALVARO SAENZ
Contributing Writer

Recently, Vermont public libraries have been on the frontlines of the nationwide opioid epidemic, which took the lives of more than 100 Vermonters in 2017 and 2018 according to the Vermont Department of Health. Libraries are open to the public so there is the potential for patrons to suffer health complications while on site, including heroin overdoses.

Middlebury's Ilsley Public Library is taking steps to counter opioid addiction on a local level. The library has trained employees to administer Naloxone (Narcan), an opioid antagonist drug used to reverse the effects of a heroin overdose. The idea occurred to Ilsley staff about a year and a half ago, as they noticed how overdoses are becoming increasingly frequent in urban libraries across the country. Library director Dana Hart said Ilsley enacted the policy as a reaction to a problem that directly affects Middlebury's community.

"When [potential overdoses] are happening on your doorstep, you have to figure out how to respond," Hart said. Ilsley has since worked with the Vermont Department of Libraries for policy and protocol implementation. Library staff were then trained in accordance with the Turning Point Center of Addison County, a nonprofit recovery center that provides help to individuals battling substance abuse.

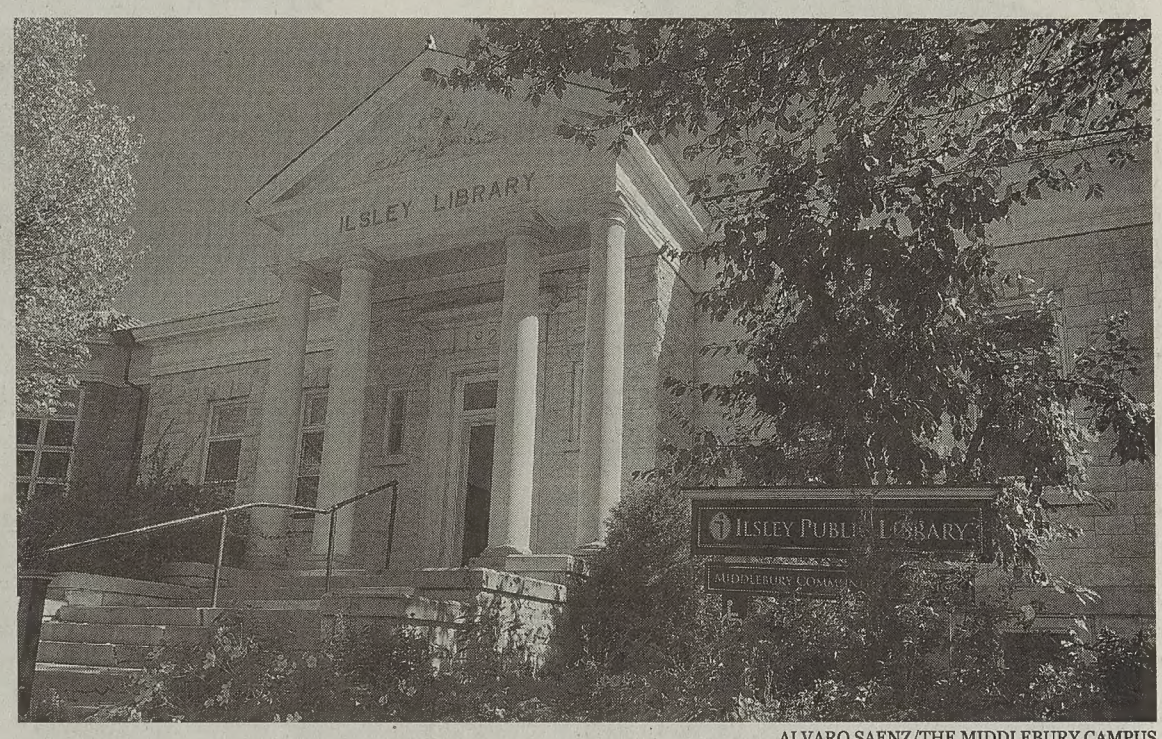
While Ilsley has yet to administer Narcan to library patrons in Middlebury, staff members are ready at every moment of operational hours. "We are really lucky that we have a wonderful emergency response team in Middlebury, but nothing beats having [Narcan] right here," Hart said. "If someone is overdosing and minutes are precious, having [Narcan] could be the difference between life and death."

Stephanie Nadeau, Ilsley librarian of ten years, is one of many staff members that have been trained to administer Narcan. "I think it's a good idea," Nadeau said. She acknowledged that while it may be difficult, resuscitating a victim is a responsibility that she would have to carry out.

"This is a community issue," said Kevin Kareckas, Middlebury's alcohol and other drug education specialist, of the opioid epidemic. "[The opioid crisis] is not something [just] a segment of the community is focused on."

According to Kareckas, Middlebury College has also been actively in touch with peer schools to ensure coverage across the greater New England area. Kareckas said that while they do not carry Narcan, officers in the college's public safety department have received training, and once the college adopts a policy and approves it from senior leadership they are ready to implement the use of of the opiate-reversal drug.

For the greater Middlebury region, Hart believes it is worth researching whether Narcan is good to have in other places within the community. "We made the decision that was right for our institution," she said. "Every institution has to do what is right for them, but I personally think the more readily accessible Narcan is, the better it can be used to save lives."



ALVARO SAENZ/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Ilsley Public Library began training staff members on how to administer Narcan a year and a half ago.

Porter Medical Center begins a five-year plan toward growth

By KAITLYN GIROUARD
Contributing Writer

Porter Medical Center recently published a five-year plan with visions to renovate and add infrastructure, hospital functionality and additional services.

"The five-year plan is intended to support our overall mission, which is to improve the health of our community one person at a time," Vice President of Communications and Engagement Ron Hallman said. Hallman has worked at UVM Health Network/Porter Medical Center for 30 years.

Hallman noted the plan is not something of the future; the center has already begun work towards initiatives of improving health care in our community. The plan can be summarized into four main areas of focus: access, new services, employees and population health.

Porter's five-year plan focuses on access in order to connect people with doctors in a smooth and efficient manner. "If people can't get in to see a provider, then it doesn't matter what the services are," Hallman said.

Porter is also working towards adding new service lines including a Pain Clinic, which would serve as a department for the treatment of chronic pain complications. Other new services would include Cardiac Rehabilitation and Express Care. "[We are] always looking for opportunities to add new lines of service so that we can provide care here locally to all of our citizens," Hallman said.

Hallman also noted plans to focus on Porter's employees. "We want to invest in our employees so that they have appropriate wages and benefits and opportunities for growth," he said. Hallman explained that a large part of achieving growth in the employee pillar of the plan has to do with transitioning to the Epic platform, an online system widely used throughout the medical community for maintaining electronic health records.

"We are going live on Nov. 1 with the first wave of this new electronic health record," he said. Hallman hopes that the implementation of the new electronic health record program will greatly improve patient service at Porter.

"Instead of having a different medical record at the hospital and at your doctor's office and at the nursing home and then up in Burlington, you're going to have one medical record," Hallman said. By transitioning to this electronic program, patients will be able to have their medical records easily follow them to the different services they may need.

The fourth pillar of the five-year plan is population health as Porter shifts its focus to the community as a whole rather than solely the sick and injured. "We are putting strategy in place to help people stay well and healthy and avoid expensive healthcare treatments," Hallman said.

"I have a personal interest in our medical office building because it's going to help us align some services underneath my medical group that definitely need to be realigned," Porter Vice President Tom Manion said. Manion explained that the five-year plan includes the addition of an office building that will allow for programs to be centrally located.

"We are going to be able to combine the Women's Health and Pediatric Group in a Mother-Baby Unit that's on-site," Manion said. As of now the pediatricians who are on call are 10–20 minutes from the birthing center, which is not ideal for either of the programs. Manion feels that the best part of the program is access for college students; Porter is often very busy and it can sometimes take weeks to months to make appointments for simple things like a sinus problem referral.

"With Epic, we're able to actually look across all our organizations," Manion said. This would increase access for community members, students and staff for other locations and doctors at places such as UVM. The transition to Epic will play a crucial role in this access as it will allow for one's medical record at Porter to be easily accessed by other places digitally. "I think what improves the health of our community improves the health of the College's community the same," Hallman said.

The five-year plan does not come without drawbacks. "It all costs money, it all requires capital," Hallman said. According to Porter president Seleem Choudhury, the medical center is currently seeking permission for a $30 million medical office building alone.

Manion voiced concern about the Epic platform, and the amount of time and feedback that will be required to install and optimize the program. "Between Nov. 1 of this year to Oct. 1 of next, we are going to live in an interim state, which means we have an outpatient record and an inpatient record," Manion said. During this period the medical records won't "talk" to each other as well which could potentially cause stress and problems for the employees.

"Likely more staff will be needed to help with that," Manion said.

"Healthcare is a tricky business," Hallman said, and widespread changes do not come without struggle. Nevertheless, the leaders of Porter hope this plan will enhance the services the center offers and help make our community a better place for everyone.

COURTESY PHOTO
Porter Medical Center's new five-year plan includes a concept for new medical services, including a Pain Clinic, increasing appropriate wages and benefits for employees, and developing proactive health measures for residents.

Fall flourishes at the Middlebury Farmers Market

By RATI SAINI
Contributing Writer

Vendors from all over Addison County congregate in Middlebury every Saturday for the Middlebury Farmers Market (MFM), with vendors selling an assortment of products including poultry, dairy, seasonal produce and crafts, accompanied by live music. The MFM is open outdoors every Wednesday and Saturday morning from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. from May through October at the Veterans of Foreign Wars post on Exchange Street. It moves indoors during the offseason.

The MFM works in collaboration with the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA), an association committed to certifying local farms and processors to the USDA National Organic Program Standards. According to their website, NOFA "promotes organic practices to build an economically viable, ecologically sound and socially just Vermont agricultural system that benefits all living things."

NOFA's goals are carried out through various means. Paige Wener, a farmer from Green and Gold CSA (community supported agriculture), described the work she does and her interaction with NOFA. "Green and Gold is a farm and coop that primarily grows fresh produce and raises chickens," she said. Some of the fresh produce on hand at the farmers market this weekend included various leafy greens, broccoli rabe and seasonal root crops.

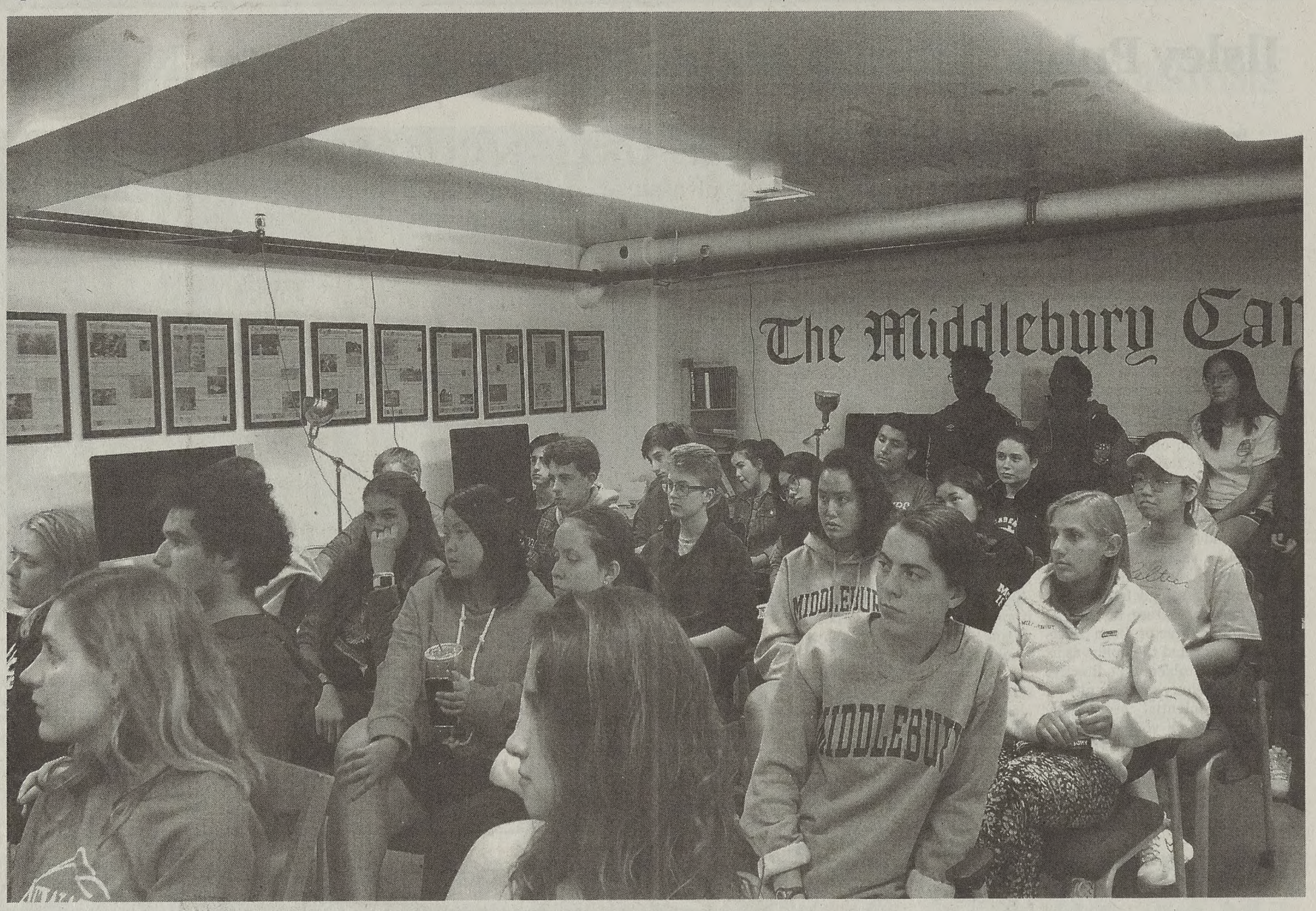
Green and Gold CSA also has honeybees on its property and holds spiritual retreats and special events, including harvest dinners during the fall and taco and tubing nights during the summer. Green and Gold is also a certified organic CSA that abides by "no till" and "low till" farming practices, where the disturbance of soil is kept to a minimum. Green and Gold pursues many of NOFA's goals by participating in subsidized programs for low-income families. The Vermont Farm to Family Program is one such program, which offers coupons to needy families valued at $6 for produce; in return, Green and Gold receives reimbursement from the state. Crop Cash, a similar program used by other vendors, provides families with an EBT card with extra money to be spent on fresh produce.

Two other vendors at the Middlebury Farmers Market, Foggy Meadow Produce and Windfall Orchard, have both employed students from the college in years past. Foggy Meadow Produce, located in Benson, Vermont, is a small farm with just two full-time employees, and a few part-time, seasonal employees. They are open to the public and offer tours showcasing their equipment, heat tunnels and natural farming practices. Foggy Meadow only grows fresh produce, but they are able to stay open all year by using indoor heat tunnels. "Now that our fall crops are coming in, it's time to harvest our roots and put them in our coolers and cellars in which we have space for 30,000 pounds of produce," Foggy Meadow employee Janice Burton said.

Windfall Orchard, a three-acre orchard located in Cornwall, Vermont, boasted several of its 80 varieties of apples this weekend at the MFM, including MacIntosh, Spartan and Twenty Ounce Pippin. "This week we have Bartlett pears and some new apples, like Hitchcock, a heritage variety with a pinkish interior. The Blue Pearmains and Honeycrisp are also new," said James Kipp '19.5, an employee at the orchard.

Windfall Orchard also features an on-site tasting room with farmhouse and iced cider, as well as hard cider, open every Sunday afternoon from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.. They are open every weekday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for picking and hold markets in Middlebury and Burlington every Saturday.

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
The Middlebury Farmers Market runs every Wednesday and Saturday morning from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. from May through October at the Veterans of Foreign Wars on Exchange Street.



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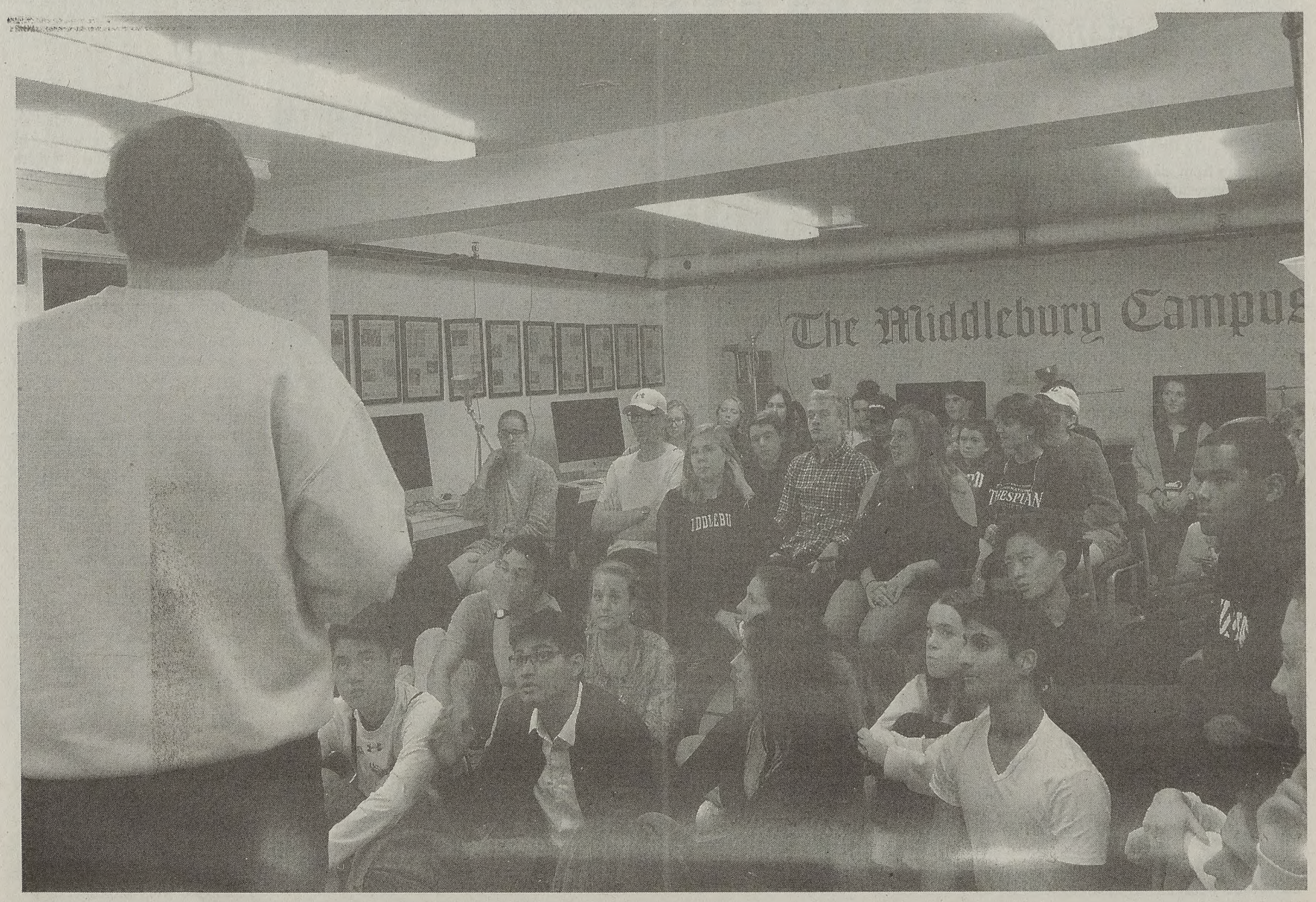

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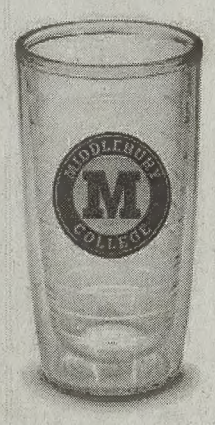

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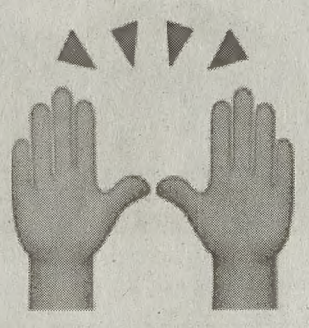

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MARQUIS

Rice paddies in Vermont? Vergennes farm boasts largest rice operation in Northeast

By HAEUN PARK
Contributing Writer

COURTESY PHOTO
Erik Andrus of Boundbrook Farm in Vergennes has been growing rice since 2010 on his five-and-a-half-acre property. The rice harvest begins Oct. 7 this year.

Though corn and dairy are the staple crops for farmers in Addison County, Boundbrook Farm owner Erik Andrus decided to grow something different — rice. At his five-and-a-half-acre property, located 20 minutes north of Middlebury, Andrus maintains rice patties on the largest rice farm north of the Mason-Dixon Line and east of the Mississippi River.

Boundbrook is not only distinctive for its crop choice, but also for its farming methodology. Andrus follows the traditions of "Aigamo," or "duck-and-rice farming:" a Japanese farming practice where ducklings are released into rice paddies. Their activity clouds the water, destroying weed competition, as well as getting rid of snails and other bugs that could potentially harm the rice plants. Sticking to practice, owner Erik Andrus keeps 600 ducks on his farm each year, most of which are of the Khaki Campbell variety.

This past summer, Middlebury College students Lucy Kates '20.5 and Katie Cox '20.5 worked at Boundbrook Farm through the Middlebury FoodWorks internship. On their first day, they were told they needed to build two hutches to transport the ducks to and from the patties.

"We kind of embarked on this small-scale construction project with [Andrus]," Cox said. "I didn't have a bunch of construction experience, so it was my first time using staple guns, power saws and stuff like that. We made these two kinds of fortresses, and [Andrus] named both after French battleships."

Other tasks included putting up fences around the fields to keep the ducks inside and transplanting rice seedlings in the patties.

"We got to drive these Japanese-imported specialized rice planting machines," Cox said. "They were unlike any machine I've ever seen." Andrus taught Cox and Kates how to drive the equipment in one afternoon before sending them out to the patties.

"It felt like we were definitely being entrusted with a very important task," Kates said. "That was the foundation of the whole growing season."

One week, Andrus attended a rice grower's conference in Japan and left Cox and Kates to manage the farm. Among other responsibilities, the two were tasked with herding ducklings in and out of their hutches every day.

"That was often a pretty fun process," Cox said. "It wasn't super hard to coral them all, but sometimes we would have to chase the ducks down and grab the ones that were freaking out and trying to run away."

Overall, the work environment on Boundbrook Farm is driven by Andrus's commitment to flexibility and innovation.

"[Andrus] himself is still very much figuring out what ways work best for him and trying to navigate this import of a traditional method of agriculture, which has been practiced in Japan for thousands of years, into New England," Kates said. "He was very open to different approaches, and it was very cool to feel like we could contribute new ideas."

Andrus started out growing wheat in his early years in Addison County, but after struggling to dry the soil sufficiently, he switched to rice in 2010. He was inspired by the works of Takeshi and Linda Akaogi of Akaogi Farm in Putney, who had come to test Japanese rice varieties in Vermont. After attending their workshop at a Northeast Organic Farming Association conference, he committed himself to creating a commercial pilot operation for rice. Ten years later, he currently oversees six acres of the biggest rice installation in the Northeast.

Still, as a pioneer of this agricultural venture, he faces challenges.

"We just don't have the extent of experience, knowledge or community resource for rice," Andrus said. "When we encounter difficulties, we have to look to the other side of the world for peers that can help us. So that's what makes the kind of farming we do also a cross-cultural communication project."

Andrus' own life has been marked by cross-cultural experiences. He studied Arabic in Morocco from 1993 to 1994, has worked in construction, and for a while even lived in Japan as an English teacher. His biggest influence, however, was his study of Renaissance instrument making in Australia from a master lute maker named Bruce Tekle. Tekle was a handyman, gardener, adventurer, activist and a friend to Andrus.

"It was the growing things and living out in nature that stayed with me more than the lute making; just that envy of having a place around you that you could shape and create your own contract with away from the pressures of having a regular job," Andrus said. "That was kind of the vision I held onto."

Boundbrook Farm is currently preparing for harvest, which begins Oct. 7. But Andrus' long-term enterprise is to expand ecological rice growing regionally, nationally and internationally.

"If the Northeast had been settled by Asians and not by Europeans, we would already have a lot of rice knowledge," he said. "But because of the European mindset that we brought to this region, there's a lot of opportunity for wetland growing that's part of Asian tradition that has been totally underutilized and misunderstood by the current population."

Andrus is looking to change that.

COURTESY PHOTO
Katie Cox '20.5 drove a specially imported Japanese rice-planting machine.

COURTESY PHOTO
A Khaki Campbell duckling perched on Lucy Kates' '20 shoulder.

Afterschool in Addison: Northwest district receives $100k for programs

By KARI HENKEN
Online Editor

This summer, the Addison Northwest School District (ANWSD) received two grants totaling $999,600 to both continue afterschool programming as well as expand its K-6 offerings into Addison and Ferrisburgh central schools.

Ten years ago, the first 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant, or 21C, was awarded to ANWSD, which funded the Fusion Expanded Learning Program, a set of afterschool activities. ANWSD soon after received another 21C grant to expand its programs to include Vergennes Elementary School students.

The majority of this year's funding comes from the district's third 21C grant, a federal prize made possible through the Vermont Agency of Education. The district was also awarded a $40,000 grant from the Afterschool for All grant program, funded primarily through Vermont's Child Development Division and to be paid over a two-year span.

"It's a competitive grant," ANWSD Fusion Coordinator Tara Brooks said of the 21C grant. "The federal government distributes money to each state, and then the state distributes money to local communities. But there has to be a certain amount of need in the local community."

Brooks noted that to apply for the grant, 40% of the student body has to qualify for free and reduced lunch rates. "[It's] one of the biggest thresholds," Brooks said. Two schools in the district, Vergennes Union Elementary School and Addison Central School, meet the free and reduced lunch rate requirements, and the second grant will allow ANWSD to expand to Ferrisburgh.

With its accessible range of programs, ANWSD broadly targets the Addison County community. Families can apply for childcare subsidies and scholarships for both ANWSD afterschool and summer programs. For the Fusion afterschool program, a family could even pay nothing. "You just pay what you can," Brooks said.

Asia Kruse, Fusion Site Coordinator in Vergennes, noted the program's commitment to accessibility.

"We will never deny anybody from participation due to financial reasons," she said. Throughout the year, Fusion has five sessions of around six weeks each, each offering a different set of activities for students in grades 7–12. This session's courses include Vermont History Day, which is an opportunity for students to create historical projects for presentation at an annual state contest, in addition to theater projects, yoga and a babysitting course. There is also a "Learning Lab" offered each day, where students can get homework help from teachers.

"Research done on the benefits of afterschool programs show that students not only achieve academic success, but it has shown continued success as adults between kids that have access to these programs and kids that don't," Brooks said. She noted that grants allow families of all different financial statuses to access afterschool program.

"I feel that the afterschool setting is healing for students, and they can really open up," Kruse said. "Sometimes they do not necessarily have a positive situation at home...but [when they join afterschool programs] they can find and build connections."

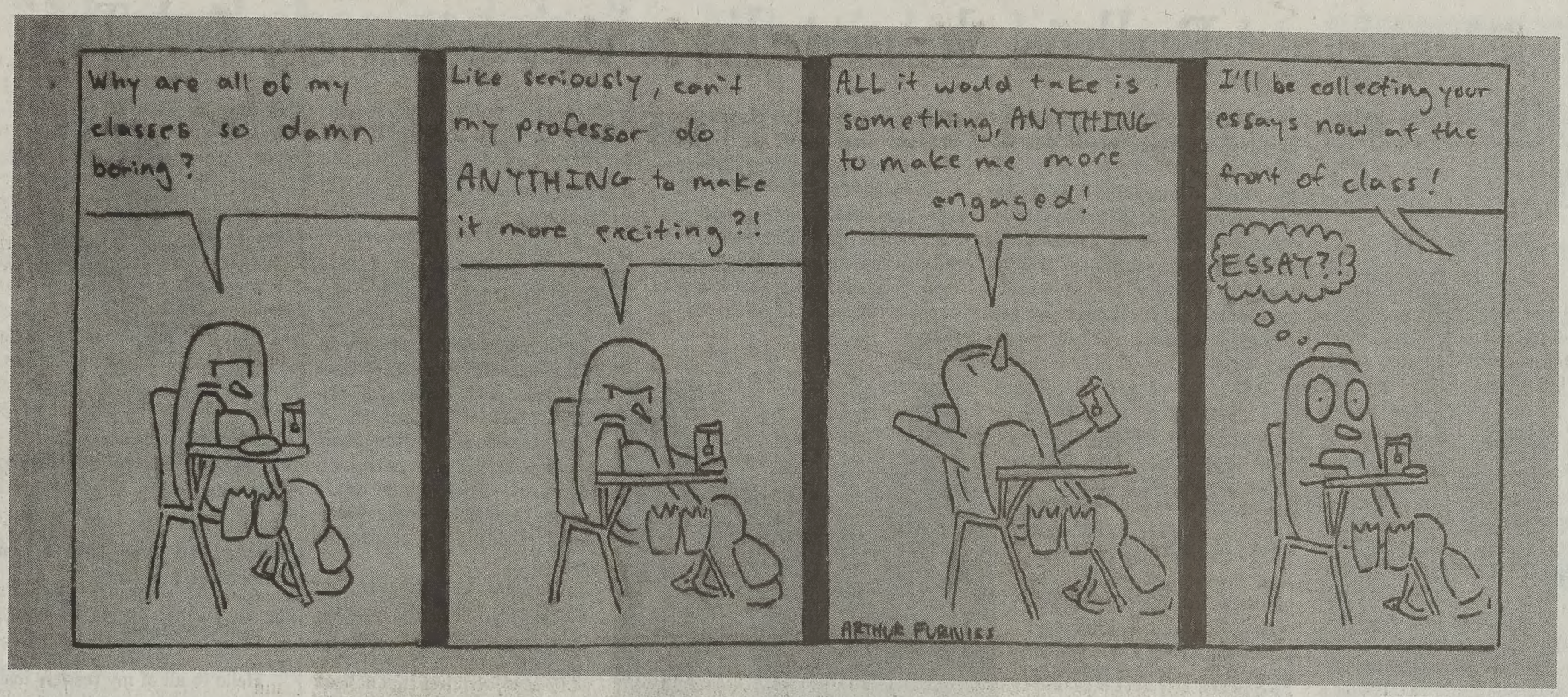
Jay Stetzel, Director of School Counseling in Vergennes, underlined the importance of afterschool programs in relation to teen drug and alcohol usage.

"In general, we all know that if students are involved in [extracurriclars] offered by their school—sports, programming, whatever it might be — they are less likely to be involved [in risky behaviors]," he said.

Many consider this type of programming to be vital to the town of Middlebury itself. "If we did not have programming, parks and recreation or regular afterschool, there would be a very, very large and unhappy group of citizens living in Middlebury," said Scott Bourne, Program Coordinator for Middlebury Parks and Recreation Department. "We realize how dependent [families] are on what we do."

The grants that ANWSD received this summer will further their goal of creating a stronger and more resilient community for all Addison County residents and provide students the resources they need to learn and grow.

"We are trained to give students so many opportunities," Kruse said. "We will keep fighting for grants to continue and expand our programming."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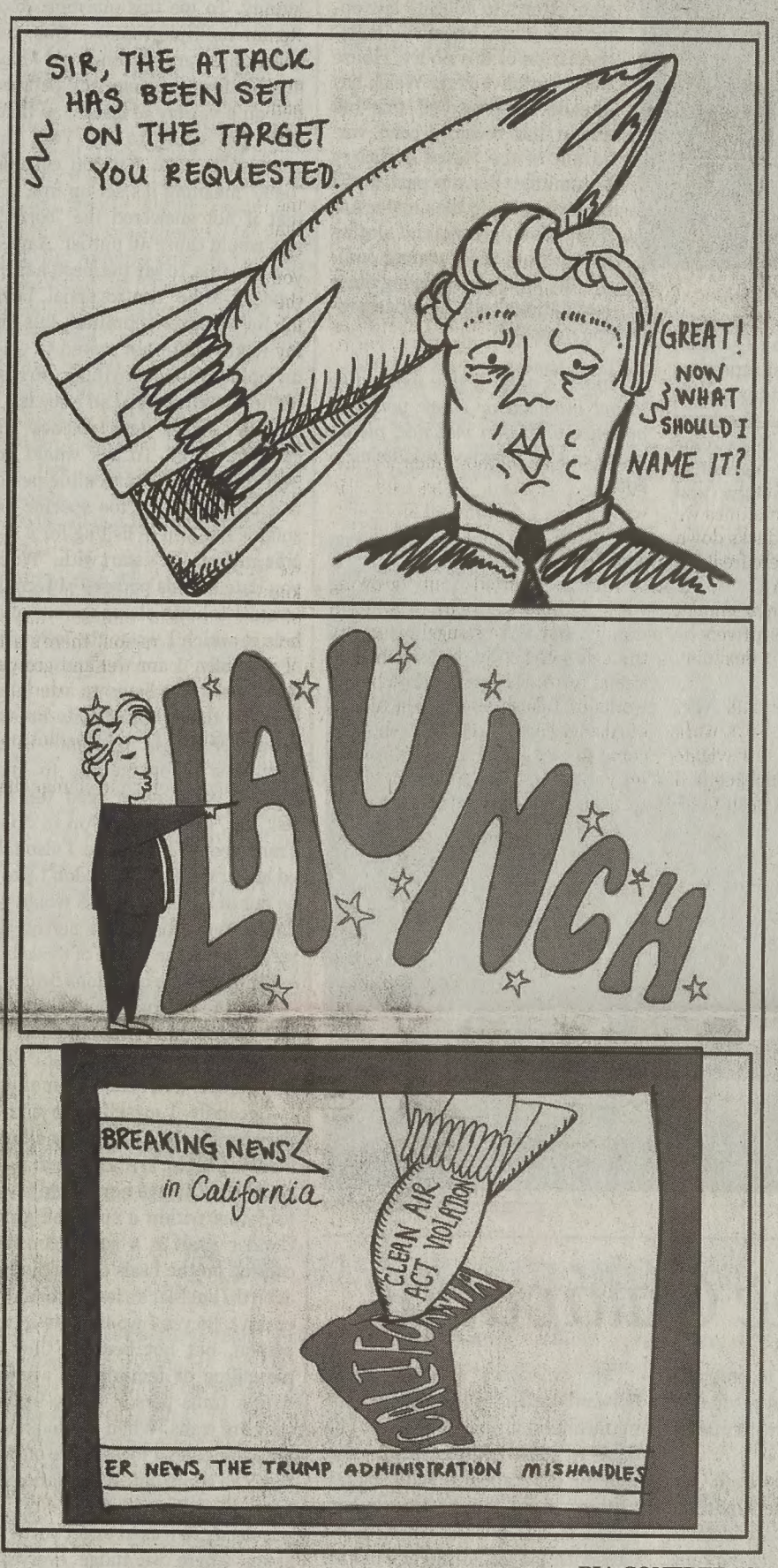
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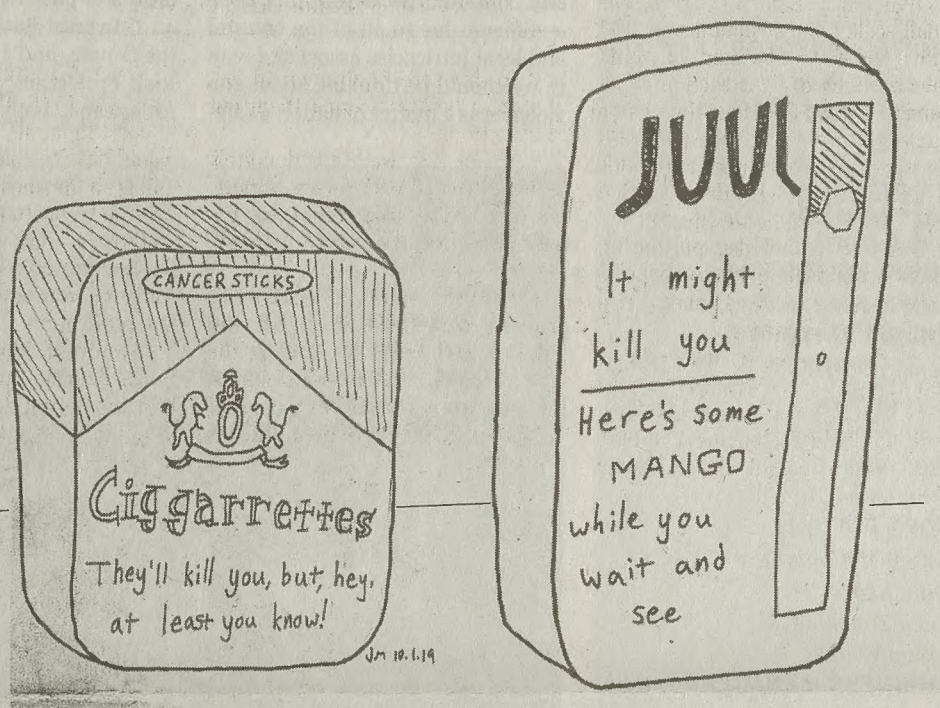


JENNY MOSS

INTRODUCING: THE CAMPUS CROSSWORD

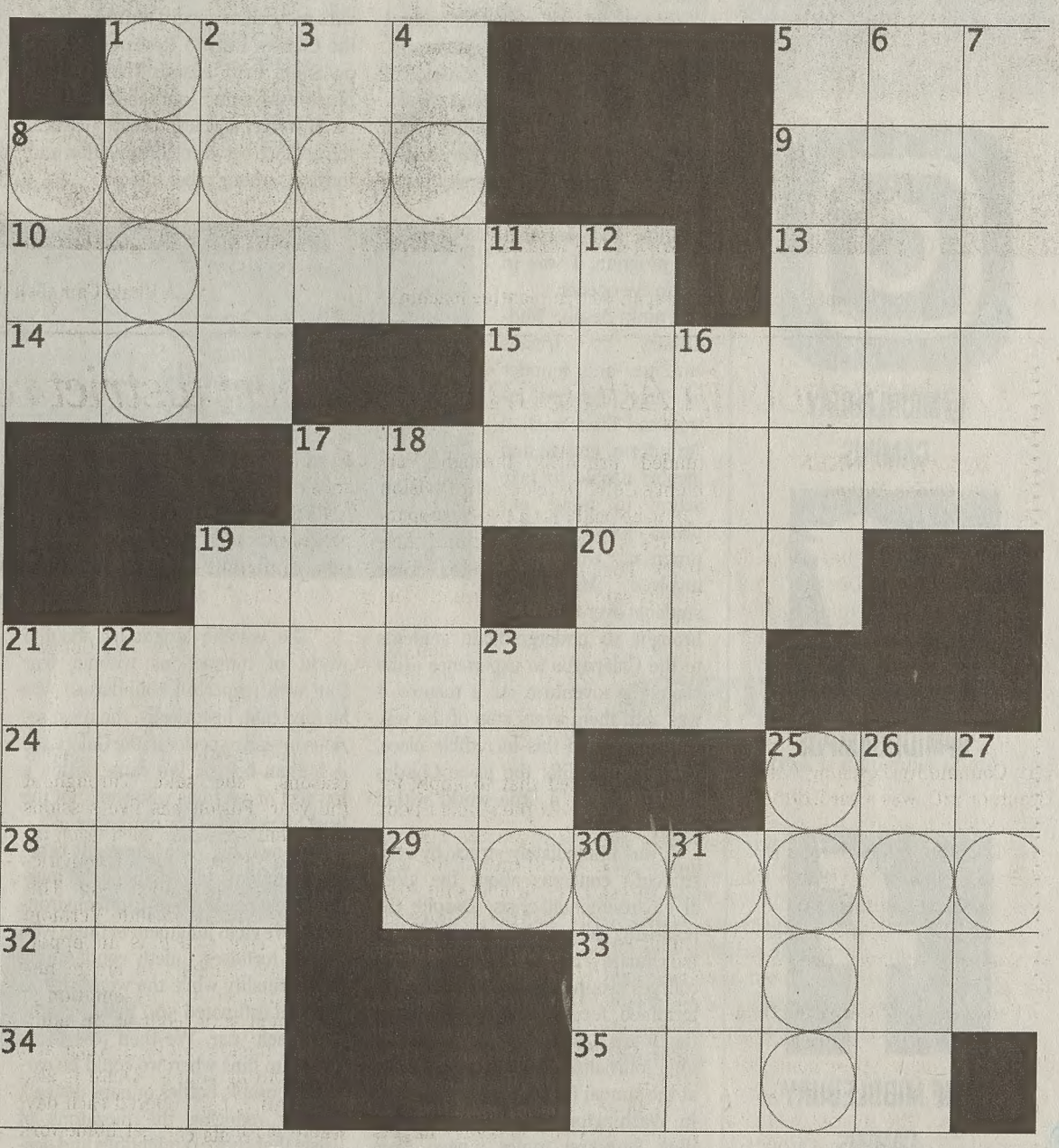
By GREYSON ZATZICK
Contributing Cruciverbalist

ACROSS

1. Wriggling bait
5. Fleeting craze
8. *Traffic controller
9. Mined find
10. Neglected
13. Chest bone
14. "___ whiz!"
15. McDonald's chieckn big
17. Blood group? ... or a hint to the two groups of circled squares in this puzzle.
19. Small battery
20. Palindromic bird
21. Doubt
24. Liabilities' opposites
25. Moving vehicle
28. Tinkle
29. *Little fish
32. Spy novelist Deighton
33. Kind of bean
34. First responder, for short
35. ___ of March

DOWN

1. *Merlot, for one
2. Eye amorously
3. Greek "P"
4. "Jersey Shore" network
5. Drew a blank
6. Ram, astrologically
7. They're outstanding
8. Schlep
11. Conclusion
12. Tear channels
16. Sand
17. Give stars to
18. Our planet
19. Concurrence
21. Canadian tree
22. "___ to recall..."
23. Manipulate
25. *Tarzan's transport
26. Picnic pests
27. Independent charity, for short
30. Engineering sch. in Troy, N.Y.
31. Relieved (of)



For answers to this week's crossword puzzle, visit our website at middleburycampus.com.

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THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Bullets do not discriminate

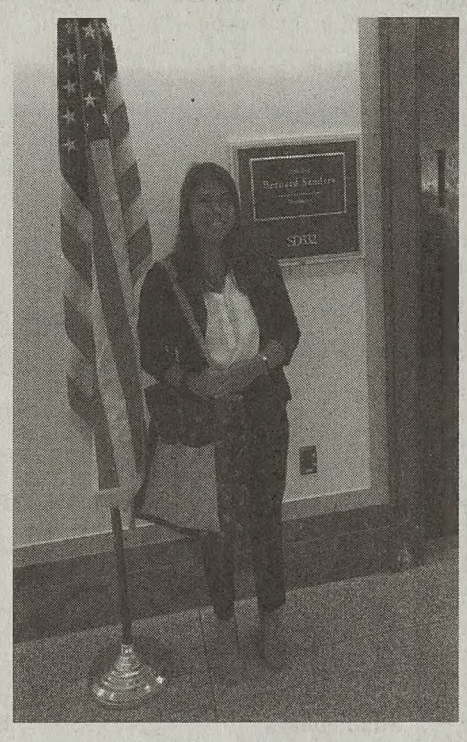
op-ed

Olivia Bravo is a member of the class of 2019.

My name is Olivia Bravo, and I am a gun violence prevention activist. As part of a program with the Friends Committee on National Legislation, I, along with 19 other young activists from a vast array of different backgrounds, will be lobbying this year for gun violence prevention and comprehensive gun control legislation in their respective states.

Being raised Quaker and still practicing, I was exposed to non-violent, tolerant ideals from a young age. These ideals, in many ways, drive my passion for reform. Above all else, I believe gun violence to be something that affects everyone, regardless of age, gender, race, or socioeconomic class. Bullets do not discriminate. This is not a partisan issue, but a human issue. Guns take 109 lives from us daily.

While I am lucky enough not to have a personal connection to gun violence, many of my colleagues do. Hearing their stories, as well as experiencing the nationwide aftermath of each life lost to us by senseless brutality is enough to ignite within me a fire of passionate revolt. I fundamentally refuse to accept that active shooters and mass killings are a part of our current reality. We — citizens, constituents, and especially young people — should do everything in our power to protect individual lives and communities. While this issue is difficult due to all of the cultural and legal intricacies associated with it, we should be thinking about gun violence as a matter of national safety above all else. The phrase "Gun violence prevention" (as opposed to "gun control") alludes to legislation which lessens the risks involved with gun sales, shooting, and general ownership. It makes clear that the government is not trying to take away guns. Instead, it is trying to improve the safety of American citizens.



As "Advocacy Corp" members, the 19 other activists and I will be pressuring Congressional representatives to pass two bills into law: S. 42 Universal Background checks in the Senate, and H.R. 1236 Extreme Risk Protection. Ninety percent of Americans, both gun owners and non-owners, support the implementation of these bills. Already, Senators Bernie Sanders and Patrick Leahy have voiced their support for Senate Bill S. 42. H.R. 1236 Extreme Risk Protection Orders (or ERPOS), which allows families, community members and law enforcement to petition courts to restrict an individual's access to guns, while simultaneously establishing a process for appeal.

Vermont, as a state with an ERPO law, can issue final orders for firearm removal for up to six months. The new bill, H.R. 1236, requires that at least 25% of federal funding supports state efforts to educate law enforcement on effective implementation of this policy. House Representative Peter Welch has already co-sponsored this bill and it has recently been voted out of the House Judiciary Committee. For my part, I will be advocating in the greater Addison County area and urging members of the Vermont community to join in lobbying these foundational gun violence prevention measures.

Author's note: If you would like to get involved or share your experience with gun violence, please reach out to obravo@middlebury.edu.

COURTESY OF OLIVIA BRAVO

Waking up in the Galápagos

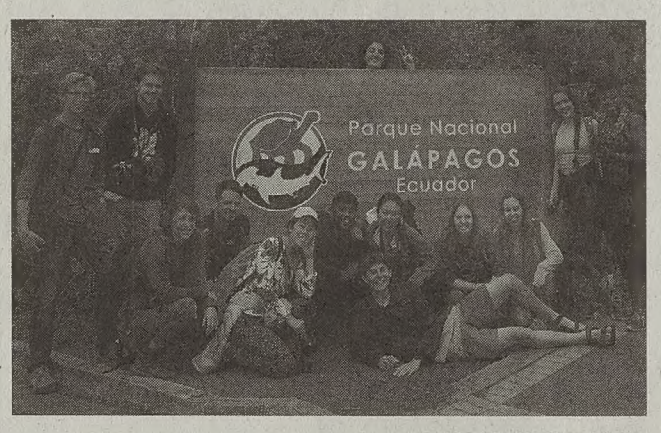
Sometimes we think we're awake when we're merely sleep-walking. I was taught to recycle and compost kitchen waste in my youth and have since considered myself fairly environmentally conscious. "Waste is bad," and "Conservation is good," are mantras that I grew up with and have passed on to my children (both Midd grads).

On a recent visit to the Galápagos, I woke up to some startling discoveries. However environmentally conscious I might consider myself, when I was invited this past summer to join a group of students from Planet Forward, a George Washington University-based environmental communication and storytelling program, I was in for an eye opener.

Frank Sesno, Middlebury '77, trustee emeritus and founder of Planet Forward, introduced their mission "to inform, engage and inspire people to take action to move our planet forward." This program, which has involved Middlebury students over the years, brought 10 undergraduate students to the Galápagos to experience a life changing adventure. As a mentor, I was with them every step of the way as we explored this incredible place, teeming with life: the place Charles Darwin called "a little world within itself."

I was immediately struck by each student's concerns about the global environmental crisis. Despite the polarizing debate about the reality of the climate crisis, all 10 students from colleges around the country were determined, focused and hopeful about the future. Last April, their prize-winning journalism had been celebrated at the annual Planet Forward Summit in Washington D.C. The prize-winning StoryFest topics ranged from energy conserving electric buses and algae that digest plastic, to programs to reduce food waste and meditation practices to enhance environmental awareness.

CEO of Lindblad-National Geographic Expeditions Sven Lindbland announced the StoryFest winners. Each of these winners chose a topic relevant to the Galápagos that they investigated by conducting interviews with naturalists aboard the ship and at the Charles Darwin Research Station on Santa Cruz Island. Their videos, photo essays and journalism focused on invasive species, ocean plastics, the balance between conservation and tourism, among other topics.



COURTESY OF HELEN RIESS

The wildlife taught us about a world of interactions without fear (but with respectful boundaries). We learned that, historically, the most serious invasive species in the Galápagos is human beings. We came within a few feet of sea lions who were not the least bit perturbed by our presence.

My own big "aha" moment came when students talked about the massive threat plastic poses to our environment. We sit in judgment of those who hunted tortoises, quietly condemning their brutality while the world drinks from an estimated 500 billion plastic cups each year. We then toss those cups into bins when we could be carrying reusable bottles or cups instead, thereby reducing the megatons of waste that choke our landfills and desecrate our oceans.

My experience with the Planet Forward students galvanized my commitment and imagination. I saw how these 10 students inspired an entire ship full of vacationers and explorers to think about the life lessons contained in this pristine environment. Observing the tenderness of a mother sea lion feeding her pup made us realize how interconnected all life is in the quest for survival. Each one of us felt compelled to think about what we can do to move from anxiety and dismay to action.

As stewards of our planet, we bear the responsibility to examine our own values and actions and assess whether they correspond to a genuine concern for the environment. Every product we buy casts a vote for what we value. Agreeing to buy food packaged in plastic or styrofoam is a vote for continuing to package products this way. We shouldn't vote this way anymore. Each of us needs to share stories to inform and inspire others, write to our senators and representatives, and get involved in efforts to reduce energy consumption. We must all ask ourselves what personal changes we will make, which environmental groups we could join and how we will galvanize others to move our planet forward.

Middlebury students are invited to submit their own stories and podcasts, along with college students from around the country, to Planet Forward's StoryFest. The next trip is this summer in Iceland.

op-ed

Helen Riess P'13, '15 is a member of the Board of Trustees.

Ask Tré

Tré Stephens answers the Middlebury community's burning questions.

Would you ever date a trans masculine person?

— Anonymous

Hello to all of my readers inside and outside the Middlebury community. To me this question stood out for multiple reasons. One, this question is very personal and I have this platform to share my perspective on a variety of issues, so that's what I'm going to do. Two, this question is what I would consider "bait," meaning it's set up in a way that if not answered the "correct" way would cause an uproar. A question like this, to say the least, has the capacity to be controversial. Luckily, for whoever submitted this and my readers, I'm not scared to voice my opinion about anything, no matter how controversial an issue is.

First of all, let's unpack this question a bit. To ask would you ever date a trans masculine person is a bit much. It's too specific and sounds like you're fishing for a specific answer. Let's start with, "Would you date a trans person?" I recently wrote a column about the use of labels in which I wrote the following: "Personally, I am the kind of person that really hates to use labels because then those labels become a way for people to assume things about me before getting to know me." If you haven't read the first Ask Tré, I encourage you to do so. Trans people are people. I also talked about the fact that I don't like to be put in boxes, so to ask would you date a trans masculine person just seems to put me in one of those boxes. The idea this questions brings up — that the person I would date has to be masculine — is outdated and contributes to the toxic masc culture in the queer and trans community.

Secondly, I myself am a non-binary person. Not to say that all non-binary people are attracted to all people, but I have never held myself to dating within a specified group. Gender itself is a social construct created on the basis of assigned sex at birth (but that's a lesson for another day). So yes I would date a trans person, but not because they are masculine or feminine. I wouldn't date a trans person solely because they are trans. When I'm looking to date someone, I focus more on what they can contribute to a relationship mentally and emotionally — not just physically. We need to get out of this space where we judge everything and everyone based on physical attributes and how someone presents themselves. This is a lesson not just for Middlebury students or just the queer and trans community, but for all kinds of people.

Finally, to whoever wrote this comment: I'm not sure what your intention was when writing this question. However, I think that you should stop focusing on who is masculine or feminine, who has the right body type, what labels fit your imaginary criteria because it only limits who you make yourself available to. This campus is repressive when it comes to deciding who gets to participate in relationships and hookup culture. Not to mention that most students are not being realistic when trying to approach potential suitors because everyone has a type. This goes beyond having a preference or being a product of the environment. Understand that your "preference" is problematic and as long as we continue to allow behavior like this, nothing will change.

My advice: Get rid of the imaginary criteria checklist. Stop focusing on who fits what box. Try to have as many positive experiences with as many people as possible, because we are living on borrowed time.

As always, I look forward to my readers submitting questions to my column. If you don't know, you can submit your own questions at the go link: go/asktre/. My goal is to produce one piece every week for the entire year, so keep the questions coming.

Love,
Tre Stephens

"Abroad changed me"

The last thing you'll ever catch me saying when asked quickly about my year abroad is that it "changed me." I've changed, of course, but saying so has become a joke, expressible only in ironic fashion like instagram's "hot girl summer" fad. People are seemingly unable to valorize their abroad experiences without feeling the need to trivialize them, as if abroad didn't actually change them. I believe this self or societally-imposed trivialization often comes from a place of frustration and insecurity. I can imagine that someone who didn't go abroad, whether by choice or otherwise, might be tired of hearing how their friends just adored gazing at the Sistine Chapel, or are like, totally like, in love with red wine now. And how those who actually discovered something within themselves, or want to be proud of their beauty, are afraid to say so.

Unfortunately, when done gracelessly, talking about an abroad experience can very quickly devolve into an occasion for one to vaunt their newfound worldliness. Though it's okay to reminisce fondly about some truly marvelous experiences, to do so in order to make someone else feel "less than," or "deprived of," is inconsiderate. Thus, reverting to a cliché like "abroad changed me" might be our generation's way of cutting off those discourses before they begin. Because of this trend, people who have been abroad often feel apprehensive about discussing our experiences with those outside of our intimate circles.

op-ed

***Lior Selve** is a member of the class of 2020.*

I find this unfortunate, not only because people feel silenced, but because the one-way nature of the trivialization implies that people who didn't go abroad have nothing to share.

I do sincerely believe I have changed since leaving last year. But the change wasn't necessarily predicated on me physically being in Paris. So it frustrates me that people aren't asked thoughtfully about their time at home, as if their years don't merit unpacking either.

The fact is, being asked about one's time abroad has become analogous to the worn-out question, "How are you?" It is asked to be polite, not to be responded to.

"I'm good," we all lie and continue.

Frankly, I went through a lot last year, much of which was difficult and awkward and unpleasant. But when someone perfunctorily asks me about how abroad was, we both know this isn't the answer that is expected of me. It's easier for both of us if I say that the sunsets near Sacre-Coeur made my heart warm, or that I miss eating pain au chocolat in the morning. That way I don't have to actually explain how things weren't at all like they looked on Instagram. And they, upon hearing my inauthentic response, don't have to reflect on their own experiences.

It's hard for us to make time for authentic and enriching conversations. And it's even harder to open ourselves up to the kind of reflection that allows for a year abroad — or at home — to be more than "incredible" or "boring."

For me personally, when I could tell that I was being asked about my year in earnest, I shared some really profound conversations, about who I was and who I've become. It was about the me within me and all of the things I learned when I happened to be in Paris — the kinds of things that so many of my classmates had also grappled with while they happened to be at Middlebury.

I'm not necessarily arguing that people need to take interest in other people's abroad experiences. Nor do I think that we should all start living by a creed of brutal honesty by responding to a quick, "How are you?" with a long monologue on how life's been beating us down. We are social animals who have learned how to navigate social cues and sometimes we just need to check those boxes and keep on living. But if I might suggest one thing to my classmates (and anyone reading this), it would be to consider what we all might be missing out on when we trivialize or satirize our experiences. Whether it be about abroad or "hot girl summer", or simply how we're doing, we might surprise ourselves with our responses by thinking about them sincerely. We might just learn something new about who we were, who we are, and where we want to be going.

What's loneliness got to do with it?

sex panther

***Sex Panther** writes on all things sex, love and hookup-related at Middlebury.*

While at Cocoon the other night, a short prompt, written on a small piece of paper, was handed out to the audience. We were asked to fill in the blank of "the last time I bounced back from something was..." Later in the night, amid some other responses, a submission was read aloud: "The last time I bounced back from something was when I realized that it was better to be alone than to be lonely in a relationship." This statement was met with a sounds of agreement and knowing head nods. This got me thinking all weekend about what the connotations of being alone are here at Middlebury (and I'm equating alone here to not being in a relationship). I have decided on an amendment to the Cocoon-goer's response — but first, let me explain what I mean by the "connotations of being alone at Middlebury."

First of all, it is a fundamental human desire to feel like you belong. Here, though, it seems like that desire is multiplied tenfold. Middlebury is a place where we are defined just as much by the people around us as we are by our accomplishments and the things we do. The population of Middlebury is pretty damn self-selecting, with the most important admission criteria being an affinity for the Green Mountains, a tolerance for sub-freezing temperatures and whether you like fair trade granola or not. There is a satisfying edge to talking about how busy we are — which breeds an almost gluttonous approach to life here at Middlebury. We are all so busy chasing success (working, socializing, generally over-achieving) and we congratulate ourselves for it, despite the hours of sleep we miss out on, the accumulation of darker and darker circles under our eyes, or the times that we forget to stop and look up at the changing fall leaves. My theory is that the Middlebury brand of loneliness comes from us being scared that being alone reflects that we are incapable of being truly successful here.

"Whenever the Middlebury loneliness comes knocking on my door, it makes me ask myself: what am I doing wrong?"

Middlebury is a lonely place, more so at times for some people than for others. Still, while this loneliness varies in degree of severity, it might just be one of the constants of the Middlebury experience. Anyone who has experienced walking back from the library at 12 p.m. during winter finals will tell you that the barren landscape doesn't exactly foster a sense of community. I truly believe our deepest fear as Middlebury students is to be isolated, because isolation implies "aloneness." Perhaps we fight to prevent the creeping sense of isolation by establishing safeguards that we then decide define success at Middlebury; staying busy doing something worthwhile, surrounding yourself with friends that you may or may not be happy to be defined by and — if the dating scene here/the universe so dictates — being in a relationship. Even when we establish these safeguards, we feel that there is something wrong with us which has rendered us isolated and alone because somehow the loneliness seeps in somewhere. Let's face it, it is impossible to balance everything. People who aren't in a relationship feel like they are missing out on what they've been taught is an essential collegiate experience, while people who are in a relationship feel like they are missing out on time with friends and feel isolated from their "alone" peers.

Whenever the Middlebury loneliness comes knocking on my door, it makes me ask myself: What am I doing wrong? But I would never look at anyone that I love who is alone and ask them what they are doing wrong. Maybe the solution is to stop treating the people we surround ourselves with and the accolades we add to our resumes as vanguards against loneliness. Instead, we should use them as tools to get to the other side — belonging. Perhaps all we need to foster belonging is to realize that we all feel lonely. Talk about it, admit defeat and distress. Use your safeguards (friends, hobbies, engaging with things you care about) for catharsis, even if it just means feeling a little less alone for a couple minutes here and there. So, I guess my amendment to the anonymous Cocoon audience member's response is this: I would rather be happy being alone but be honest about being lonely, than be unhappy in a relationship.

SARAH FAGAN

Are Instagram models really role models to follow?

In our 21st century, social media-obsessed world, we are constantly surrounded by images of "Insta-famous" figures. Instagram has been around since 2010, but only more recently have Instagram models become a thing. Pretty much anyone can be a model thanks to Instagram, but whenever there's a trend, there's a model to follow — both literally and figuratively speaking, if you get what I mean.

Regardless of gender, many Instagram models have figures that could promote unattainable "body goals," especially since everyone's body type is different. I'm sure we're all aware of how unachievable body standards can be poisonous to the mind. Imagery creates representations in our heads. Being bombarded with the same imagery repetitively doesn't help our self-perceptions, especially if we find ourselves in an unstable state of mind (which the stress of college doesn't exactly help).

That's why I think it's important not only to find time for ourselves once in a while, but also to consistently keep our space — both our physical space and cyber — as positive as we can. Surround yourself with positive imagery and people, and the stress of college won't be as bad when it actually starts hitting you.

I'm not saying that you can't have someone as the model for your "body goals," but be aware that plastic surgery and even Photoshop were probably involved in a handful of those famous figures that we've all seen, like Anastasiya Kvitko, the "Russian Kim Kardashian." Not everyone's surgery is as drastic nor are they as obvious, which is why you should choose who you idolize carefully.

I encourage you to actually take a look at yourself if you're having any self-conscious thoughts — figure out if you're genuinely unhappy with how you look or if your insecurity is actually because you feel like you don't meet society's beauty standards. If it's the former, then take time to work on yourself, even though that can be hard to do. If it's the latter, I encourage you not to worry about those standards. I know: easier said than done. But work to find what you like about yourself and go out of your comfort zone, whether that's through your clothing or by going out. Finally, surround yourself with people who are positive forces in your life and don't be afraid to cut off those that aren't. It's a part of growing up and a lesson I've learned time and time again.

op-ed

***Tyra Browne** is a member of the class of 2020.*

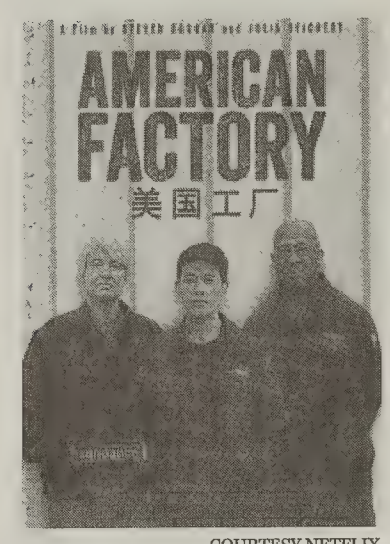
#TBT

***Millie von Platten** is a member of the class of 2018.5.*

Her cartoon, first published alongside the editorial "We Support Survivors" in the Sept. 27, 2018 issue of The Campus, was recently re-posted by the Women's March Instagram, amidst calls for Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh's impeachment from Democratic presidential candidates and protestors.

Reel Critic: American Factory

By OWEN MASON-HILL
Staff Columnist



COURTESY NETFLIX

A factory is microscopically precise. It is focused solely on efficiency and optimization. A factory is a machine, one that utilizes people to turn its gears and flip its switches. Steven Bognar and Julia Reichert's **"American Factory"** (2019) is the first installment by Higher Grounds Productions, owned by Michelle and Barack Obama, in its multi-year deal with Netflix. The film centers on a story of the complex dynamics of Chinese-American cooperation and blue-collar America.

Six years after the General Motors plant in Dayton, Ohio was closed, expelling well over 10,000 jobs from the factory, Chinese billionaire Cao Dewang purchased the factory as the first step towards American production of glass under his company Fuyao. Despite an auspicious grand opening, Fuyao America's existence was soon found to be turbulent and divisive.

Though Fuyao America is located in Ohio, many of its workers, including all of its supervisors, are Chinese, while almost the entirety of the labor-intensive working force is American. To some capacity, the film allows American audiences to garner a Chinese perspective on American culture, life and labor. There emerges a stark contrast between the film's portrayals of the dedicated, driven and precise Chinese workers and the slovenly, oafish and comfort-driven Americans. This dynamic intensifies during a trip to China to view their highly efficient and profitable factories. The work done by Chinese laborers is elegant and precise, military-like in its relentless attention to detail, yet simultaneously graceful and poised. The rythym of this part of the film falls somewhere between act one of Stanley Kubrick's **"Full Metal Jacket"** (1987) and Darren Aronofsky's **"Black Swan"** (2010).

Chinese workers in the film work hours upon hours of overtime, forgoing weekends and taking only one or two days off a month, while American workers have become accustomed to eight days off a month. Because of this and other comfort-driven impediments, Fuyao America is distinctly unprofitable, the only Fuyao factory to be so. In the inability of American workers to match the Chinese level of dedication and efficiency, "American Factory" finds its conflict.

While some workers in the Fuyao plant were paid $29 an hour at the former GM plant, many of the workers find themselves making less than half that for Fuyao. However, the workers of Dayton need jobs, so they are bound in some capacity to Fuyao. As their tolerance for shortfalls in safety, comfort and well-being is nearing its threshold, Fuyao America workers begin to rally towards the formation of a union, one that would enable them to recover some of the necessities of a working life. The lives of Fuyao America workers are at the forefront of "American Factory" and provide the film with tangible evidence of the impacts of international corporations on blue-collar American workers.

In its conclusion, as the factory seemingly repairs some of its self-inflicted damages, "American Factory" reveals an ever-increasing mechanization, one that propels the world into the future while leaving some workers in the past. While walking around the factory floor, supervisors point to different sectors remarking how a new robotic arm will soon replace one, two or even three workers. While new robotic efficiency is great for Fuyao's profitability, it begs the question of how the world will grapple with the newfound technological revolution.

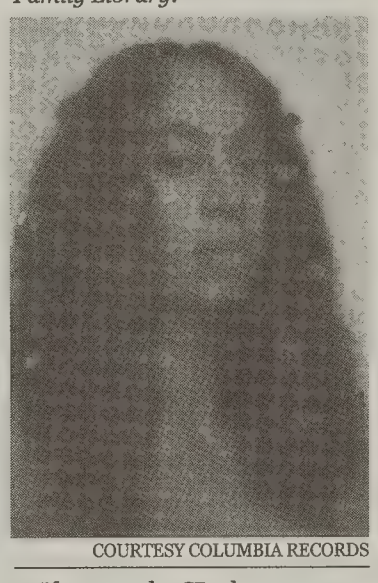
"American Factory" is a timely film that prompts its audiences to tackle some of the serious constraints of newly invented mechanical efficiency and its relation to us as a society.

As a documentary, "American Factory" is forced to record the past, scrutinizing and studying it for any glimmer of certainty for the future. One thing is for certain: this film will serve to remind us of our uncertain place in the world of rapidly progressing technology.

The Librarian Is In

By KATRINA SPENCER
Guest Columnist

Katrina Spencer is a Literatures & Cultures Librarian in the Davis Family Library.



COURTESY COLUMBIA RECORDS

If you need a CD player, you can check one out at the Circulation Desk in the Davis Family Library.

Solange Knowles' **"A Seat At the Table"** is one of the Blackest albums I've ever heard in my life. What do I mean by that? Solange consciously infuses her album with ideas of legacy, empowerment and the often invisible burden and impact of discrimination felt by Black peoples. She does all of this in one album, taking a portrait of Black people's lived experiences and translating them into music.

Solange is popularly known as Beyoncé's passionate younger sister. She made quite a shocking scene in 2017 when she attacked her rapper mogul brother-in-law Jay-Z in an elevator. She publicly addresses conversations that center trauma against the black body. And, reportedly, shirking traditional gender norms, she was the one to initiate a courtship with her husband, video music producer Alan Ferguson. All this is to say that she is fearless. Also, as the sister who often lives in the shadow of her powerhouse sibling, she likely has more leeway to voice everyday injustices in an explicit and unapologetic manner. She uses her musical platform as an opportunity to host a collective therapy session and, as "we" say, "I'm here for it."

"A Seat At the Table" had to grow on me. Listeners learn that they can't go to Solange's oeuvre looking for Beyoncé's repertoire. Their styles are completely different. While Beyoncé has some "shake-your-booty" hits and some ballads, Solange is giving us slow, melodic, minimalist and most importantly contemplative songs. A theme that you sense on this album is that the message of the music supersedes the sound. Music is the medium, but sharing the message is the point. Solange's voice is subtle — never strained, no wild riffs, no feats performed to demonstrate range. She's gentle and potent all at once. A unique feature on the album is the use of interwoven interludes featuring personal narratives from No Limit Records rap mogul Master P and her parents, Tina and Matthew Knowles. Master P, for example, talks about entrepreneurship, the efforts he made to own his own label and how pursuing his dream allowed him to liberate other members of his family from unfavorable socioeconomic conditions. Where have you seen this before? It's as though Solange wrote a letter to America and said, "Hey, listen: my seat of privilege does not divorce me from the sufferings of my people and I will use my platform to advance our causes." It is bold. It is beautiful. It is appreciated.

For a similar sound, search YouTube for Lianne La Havas for gentle, feminine vocals and acoustic accompaniment or Ella Mai for a familiar R&B sound, a more sophisticated production value and lyrics with an edge. For throwbacks of similar sounds, see Tamia or Myá.

Reel Critic: Downton Abbey

By JOHN VAALER
Staff Writer

"Downton Abbey" is a fantastic time at the movies. The film — a sequel to the hit PBS period piece of the same name — showcases sharp dialogue, fine acting and deft period-design from director Michael Engler. From start to end, "Downton Abbey" (the movie) remains frothy; Engler's film definitely lacks the cinematic aspirations of **"Boyhood"** (2014) or **"The Revenant"** (2015). But "Downton Abbey," unlike those films, is actually fun to watch.

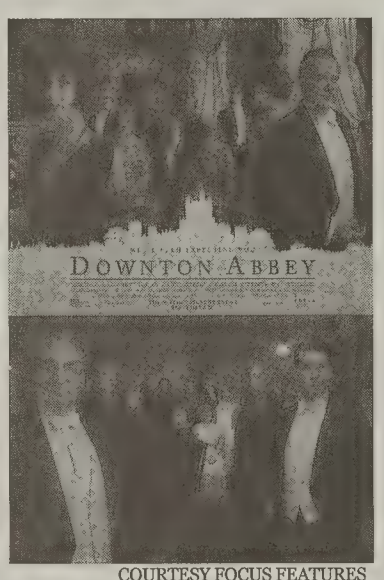
The Downton Abbey movie opens in 1927, two years after the show's end. Robert Crawley, seventh Earl of Grantham (Hugh Bonneville) raises his eyebrows upon receiving a letter. "The King and Queen are visiting Downton," he murmurs. Soon enough, we learn that the Earl is not referring to Elvis Presley and the "Bohemian Rhapsody" guys; instead, Downton must host King George V of England and his wife, Mary.

Complications ensue. The current head butler (Rob James-Collier) cannot quite manage the royal visit, for one. To make matters worse, the royal household's domestic staff will conduct the king's luncheon and dinner, undermining Downton's own staff. To solve this mess, the Crawleys reach out to their butler emeritus, Mr. Carson (Jim Carter).

"Leave this to me," Carson snarls. He puts on a tabby striped suit and walks down the road to Downton Abbey, his stern physique silhouetted by an English sunrise. This shot, like many others in this film, envelops the screen with the rich beauty of Northern England. Yorkshire essentially becomes a character in and of itself.

Other storylines come up in "Downton Abbey," but a Downton layman should not worry — none of the subplots particularly matter. There is some business about an ingénue/maid (Tuppence Middleton) who catches the eye of Tom Branson (Allen Leech), the earl's son-in-law. Meanwhile, the future of Downton must be decided by the household's matriarch, Lady Violet (Dame Maggie Smith).

Maggie Smith's acting alone makes



COURTESY FOCUS FEATURES

"Downton Abbey" worth watching. The Scottish actress throws around zingers like nobody's business. "Machiavelli is frequently underrated; he had many qualities," Lady Violet quips at one point. Is Smith's performance a rehash of her role as Professor McGonogall? Well, sort of. But Smith still rules.

Despite its strong acting and dialogue, "Downton Abbey" has a few parts that rocket beyond the stratosphere of the silly and into the cosmos of the misguided. There is a story arc wherein Downton inhabitants must foil a plot to kill the king (Simon Jones). The section reaches a climax when two men brawl over a pistol while, only five yards away, an unaware George V inspects his troops. Thankfully, Lady Mary emerges from behind a hedge and karate-chops the would-be assassin.

"Downton Abbey" is not **"John Wick"** (2014). The gunplay scene was so incongruous with the rest of the film that one wonders if Engler added the assasination storyline to simply beef up the movie's runtime.

Even more strange is when the Downton staff must go to war with the royal domestics. The household's cooks and maids use sleeping pills, fake telephone calls and outright abduction to ensure that only Downton workers can serve the King's soup. When Lord Grantham learns about all the trickery from downstairs, he expresses his gratitude. After all, his staff is defending Downton's honor — or something. If "Downton Abbey" took place on Earth, Lord Grantham would probably demand resignations, or maybe even go so far as to call the Yorkshire constabulary.

But these are minor quibbles. In what other film does one get to hear: "The day has dawned and the weather proves conclusively that God is a monarchist?" What other movie currently running in theaters features a kleptomaniac dressmaker? "Downton Abbey" might be a guilty pleasure, but the film is undeniably well-done. Give the movie a shot — you will feel quite at home during your stay at Downton.

Wish we were there: Highlights from the history of the Perf

"From Yo-Yo Ma to Duke Ellington, Middlebury has seen its fair share of musical luminaries. This Thursday, we'll throw it back to iconic performances in the history of the Performing Arts Series. Warning: this timeline may cause some serious FOMO."

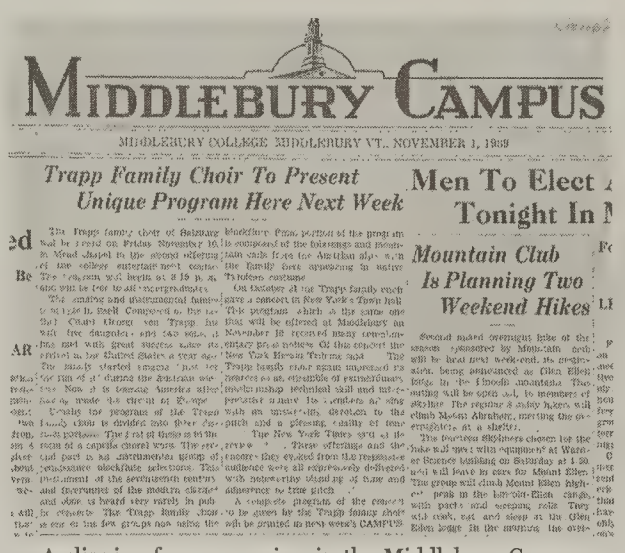
1939: The Trapp Family Choir
The harmonious family who inspired "The Sound of Music" performed at the college.

1960: Duke Ellington
The iconic jazz musician came to the college and performed during Winter Carnival.

2009-present: Sophie Shao
Shao began her performances at the college over ten years ago and has since become a beloved regular, returning each year with a different group of friends. Shao opened this year's Performing Arts Series.

1919

Grand beginnings: Middlebury's Performing Arts Series (then called the Entertainment Program) included performances from the New York Philharmonic and the Boston Symphony Orchestra in the 1920's.



MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

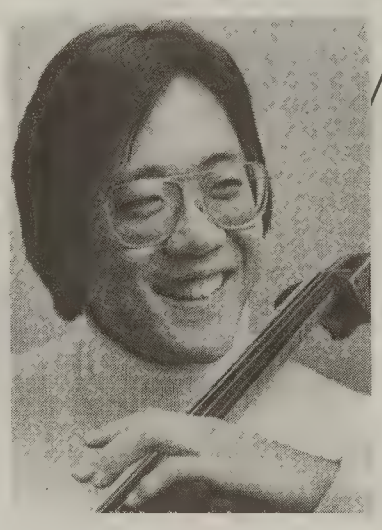
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MIDDLEBURY VT., NOVEMBER 1, 1939

Trapp Family Choir To Present Unique Program Here Next Week

Men To Elect ... Tonight In M

Mountain Club Is Planning Two Weekend Hikes

A clipping from a preview in the Middlebury Campus on Nov. 1, 1939 of the Trapp Family Choir's performance.



1979: Yo-Yo Ma
One of the most well-known cellists of our time came to the college when he was just 24.

Note: This timeline is not to scale.

Fall Faculty Forum celebrates a thirst for knowledge

The Fall Faculty Forum is an academic event hosted every year during Fall Family Weekend. Featuring faculty research and innovation, the forum consists of different panels centered around themes of exploration where professors can present their projects to students, parents and members of the community.

New modes of communication

By EMMA AUER
Contributing Writer

At first glance, Japanese classical literature, data science, analysis of the hit TV show "Breaking Bad" and computer-aided language learning platforms don't seem to have much in common. What brought these disciplines together for the Fall Faculty Forum, however, were the innovative ways Middlebury professors are teaching and researching them. Christopher Star, Professor and Chair of the Classics department, moderated a forum entitled "New Modes of Communication," which drew together presentations by Assistant Professor of Japanese Studies Otilia Milutin, Assistant Professor of Mathematics Alex Lyford, Professor of Film & Media Culture and Jason Mittell and Gabriel Guillén, Associate Professor of Language Studies at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies.

Each professor detailed their fascinating research and the implications of their work in the classroom. Milutin, for one, described her method of teaching Japanese classics through contemporary forms of Japanese media, like manga and anime, that typically draw her students to the department. In class, she often asks her students to determine the accuracy of recent depictions of classical Japanese literature by comparing them to their original counterparts. As she declared, "The past does not stay in the past," a statement which has led her to develop a course and publish two articles about contemporary retellings of classical pieces. Her work, she said, has been embraced by her colleagues.

Other professors are challenging the pedagogical norms of their respective fields as well.

Over the past few semesters, Lyford has introduced groundbreaking techniques to his courses at Middlebury by teaching data science in the form of a college writing course. Though the task of developing this course was daunting, his students can benefit from the opportunity to delve deeply into the discussion, writing and peer review inherent to college writing courses. According to him, this sets them apart from other data scientists, and their assignments — apps, for example — generally tell better stories about data than their peers who are not taking the class for college writing credit.

While Lyford explores the promise of writing as a form of communication, the next presenter discussed the merits of diverging from writing into an entirely new form of communication.

Mittell hopes to change the way people study film and media by developing a new form of film analysis: videographic criticism. In these audio-visual publications, critics are able to present their conclusions using actual scenes from films and TV shows, instead of having to recount this evidence in long paragraphs. He presented his fascinating video essay of "Breaking Bad," a 12 minute piece that delved into the racial elements of Walter White, the protagonist of the show. Mittell also discussed the peer-reviewed videographic journal he founded, called [in]Transition, the first of its kind. Mittell is dedicated to bringing videographic criticism into his classes, and hopes to see it flourish as a critical form.

The digital world is also of interest to Guillèn, who presented his research of language learning sites. Through his extensive investigation, Guillèn seeks to find out if online language learning platforms, like Duolingo or Rosetta Stone, actually work. His study revealed that most apps and platforms lack one of the three essential components of language: form, use and meaning. Guillèn argued that students need lexical breadth and depth to move towards speaking ability. According to Guillèn's data, the classroom remains the most effective place to learn a new language.

The research and pedagogy of these professors — just four of many who presented on Friday — reveal the thriving scholarship at the college. They also prove that there is room for exploration and experimentation in their fields.

Searching for answers

By EDYTH MOLDOW
Contributing Writer

As children we were natural "wonderers": exploring, experimenting and letting our inquiries guide our growing understanding of the world around us. Sometimes, however, this child-like curiosity seems to waver — put on a low-heat simmer in the stovetop of our day-to-day lives. The Fall Faculty Forum panel, "Searching for Answers," challenged this simmering quest for new knowledge, and instead turns up the heat to inspire intellectual pursuit.

Professor Michael Olinick of the Department of Mathematics weaved together a captivating presentation titled "Suicide, Accident or Political Assassination? The Enigma of Alan Turing's Death." He opened the lecture by quoting Marvin Minsky, who argues that "Turing is the key figure of our century." Not only did Turing famously crack the German's enigma code at the height of World War II, arguably shortening the war by two years and saving millions of lives, but he also founded computer science, artificial intelligence and mathematical biology. In 1952, Turing was "convicted of gross indecency," and was given the option to go to prison or undergo treatment to "cure" him of his homosexuality. He was chemically castrated as part of this conversion therapy. The details of his subsequent death remain a mystery that falls in the hands of scholars such as Olinick, who unceasingly research each and every detail, stringing together the facts in hopes of one day reaching the truth.

Following the conspiracy-lover's delight was "Of Trenches and Tombs: Experiential Learning in Field Archeology, Cyprus, Summer 2019," presented by Professor Pieter Broucke of the History of Art and Architectural Studies department and Meagan Tan '21, an Architectural Studies major. Professor Broucke introduced the location of study, an island off the southwest coast of Cyprus that resides in the eastern Mediterranean ocean. The island is named "Yeronisos," which, broucke revealed, translates to "holy island" in Greek.

"Holy island" indeed. Broucke pieced together, figuratively and literally, remnants of an ancient Greek civilization dating back to the "time of Cleopatra." By diligently measuring corner blocks, he worked to "reconstruct the counters of the island," discovering their function as the roof of a temple dedicated to Apollo. Tan flourished under the advising of Professor Broucke by embarking on a summer voyage to Yeronisos where she excavated shards of pottery, explored tombs and took part in field study courses alongside her peers. Intellectual curiosity can take you far and, if you're really lucky, far enough to be under the ethereal glow of a Mediterranean sunset.

Rounding out the history-heavy forum was Assistant Professor of Theatre Dana Yeaton's presentation "Have We Found the Secret to Better Speaking?" Yeaton professed that his "passion for oratory" led him to go through innovation funding from the college to create Oratory Now! This student-driven group has become a "training program for our students who then train students in public speaking." He then posed a question to the audience: "So... have we discovered the secret to better speaking?" His solution: Let's find out!

As an experiment, in came Oratory Now! coaches Matthew Fliegauf '22, GiGi Hogan '22 and Kate Hilscher '20.5, who proceeded to lead the audience in a 15 minute exercise. They acknowledged that we are "afraid to look silly" when speaking in public, but that our "self-consciousness must be replaced by audience consciousness." We must first connect with our bodies, and then with our audience. The coaches commented on why they coach, suggesting that one "can always keep improving."

And improve we shall when influenced by scholarly events such as these. As the forum drew to a close, all three presenters commented on the purpose of a faculty forum and what they personally gained from presenting. Professor Olinick sees the forum as a way to "generate ideas" in a liberal arts context, which Professor Broucke believes is "exploration in nature," and that exploration "binds [the liberal arts education] together." Professor Yeaton shared that for him, the faculty forum is a "genesis of teaching something else" where he "becomes a student" again, describing this process as "freeing" and "fulfilling."

MAX PADILLA / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Professors presented their research, ranging from the secrets of public speaking to contemporary Japanese media, at the forum.

forming Arts Series

2014-present: Heath Quartet
Since their Middlebury debut in 2014, the quartet has graced the Robison stage five times and is now the series' first-ever quartet in residence.The first of their six part performance cycle is this Friday, Oct. 5.

COURTESY PHOTOS

2019

The Performing Arts Series is celebrating its 100th year. Happy centennial!

Newsroom *influencers*

By SARAH BOYLE, ELSA KORPI and APRIL QIAN
Arts & Academics Editors

Here at Arts & Academics, we spend our time in the newsroom covering the cultural happenings on campus. But what about the latest phenomena in the online world?

These topics often enter our conversations while editing the section, and we thought it was about time to let you all in on the fun. Each week, one of us assigns a current pop culture moment, whether it be a music release or fashion style, and we'll each share our thoughts.

This week, April chose "Made in China" by the Chinese rap group Higher Brothers. The song's music video was distributed on YouTube with English subtitles.

AQ: I'll admit that "Chinese rap music" is a bit more niche than our previous topics... but just hear me out. When a friend played the music video for Higher Brothers' "Made in China" for me last year, I was intrigued. The five-minute video shows the four Brothers donning gold chains and dressed head to toe in red tracksuits (in case anyone had any questions about their political leanings). They are surrounded by mahjong, bamboo shoots, porcelain vases and other traditionally Chinese paraphernalia. Between chants of the refrain "made in China," the rappers reference everything from diamonds, gold watches and that "b*tch," to the Great Wall and the Chinese poet Li Bai. The tone of the song ranges from tongue-in-cheek to nationalistic, depending on where you are in the song and who you ask. The video seemed relevant given current political happenings... but TBH I just think it's an interesting video. Give it a watch if you feel so inclined.

EK: Music videos that look like they went straight from the VSCO app onto Tumblr hold a special place in my heart, and this is no exception. These guys owe whoever came up with this faded strip club-esque aesthetic a drink. All jokes aside though, the amount of references in their lyrics is kind of impressive. With the mahjong, vases, spicy food and mandatory red attire, I almost don't even mind the odd off-beat line. Suggested further reading: "Hong Kong Kids" (2015).

SB: I don't know much about about rap music or current Chinese politics and culture, so a lot of things were new for me in this music video. It's something that I will keep rewatching so that I can try to understand all of their references (because there are a lot). It has really showed me a gap in my knowledge, so it has inspired me to do some research and educate myself.

SARAH FAGAN

DON'T MISS THIS

The Land of Open Graves: Living and Dying on the Migrant Trail

Jason De León will be speaking on his award-winning book, as well as his work with the Undocumented Migration Project, which attempts to understand various aspects of unauthorized border crossings using a combination of ethnographic, visual, archaeological and forensic approaches.

Thursday 10/3, 7:30 p.m., Dana Auditorium

Jump! The 24th Annual First Year Show

Come celebrate the theatrical talent of Middlebury students in this fully student-written, designed and performed event! An evening of scenes exploring the risks and rewards of taking your first or last step.

Thursday 10/3-Saturday 10/5, 8 p.m. Hepburn Zoo

Hirschfield Series: Tazzeka

Growing up in the Moroccan village of Tazzeka, Elias learned the secrets of traditional Moroccan cuisine from his grandmother. Years later, meeting a top Paris chef and a young woman named Salma inspires him to leave home. In Paris, Elias faces unstable work and financial hardship as an undocumented immigrant. But he also finds friendship with Souleymane, who helps revive his passion for cooking.
Saturday 10/5 3 & 8 p.m., Dana Auditorium

Community postings

Eckankar Vermont:

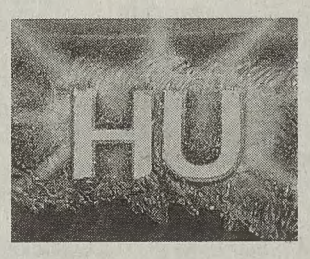
Dreams and Soul Travel: Keys to Healing and Inner Peace

Time: Thursday, Oct. 10, 6 p.m.
Location: Ilsley Public Library

Interested in unlocking your dreams? Looking for spiritual insight? Try a spiritual exercise to tap your inner truth through soul travel. An open discussion hosted by Eckankar.

More info: www.eckankar-vt.org

HU Chant: The Sound of Soul



Time: Thursday, Oct. 10, 7:15 p.m.
Location: Ilsley Public Library

Interested in unlocking your dreams? Looking for spiritual insight? Try a spiritual exercise to tap your inner truth through soul travel. An open discussion hosted by Eckankar.

More info: www.eckankar-vt.org

CenterforCommunityEngagement

Participate in the Decolonizing Knowledge and Pedagogy Workshop Series featuring Jason De León

Time: Thursday, Oct. 3, 12:15–1:30 p.m.
Location: Davis Family Library 105A/B

You are invited to participate in the first installment of the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity's Decolonizing Knowledge and Pedagogy Workshop Series featuring Jason De León, Professor of Anthropology and Chicana/o Studies at UCLA, and Executive Director of the Undocumented Migration Project. Professor Jason De León will discuss his approach to pedagogy by discussing his collaborative, public facing, and activist scholarship. He will also discuss the specific ways that his work decolonizes the fields of archaeology, anthropology, and immigration policy studies. Lunch will be provided at Davis Family Library 105A/B at 12:15–1:30 p.m. Later in the afternoon, at 4:30–5:30 p.m. in Axinn 229 Jason De León will be part of a panel on activism on undocumented migration issues and experiences. This panel will also feature Alondra Carmona '20 from Juntos, Hannah Krutiansky '19 from RAÍCES, amongst others. Professor De León will represent the Colibrí Center for Human Rights where he serves as the President of the Board of Directors. Jason De León will also be speaking on his new book, The Land of Open Graves: Living and Dying on the Migrant Trail, and his work with the Undocumented Migrant Project. UMP is a collaboration between scholars, artists, and activists that engages in the study of clandestine migration using a combination of ethnographic, visual, archaeological and forensic approaches. This will be from 7:30–9:00 p.m. at the Dana Auditorium.

Become a trained volunteer with the Charter House Coalition

Time: Friday, Oct. 4, 6:30 p.m.
Location: Charter House Coalition

Charter House Coalition provides shelter, transitional housing, free meals and a friendly face to families and individuals in the Middlebury area who need assistance. Charter House is hosting a student volunteer training, where interested volunteers will learn the responsibilities of being a warming shelter volunteer. This training will be held over a pizza dinner and will be presented by Samantha Kachmar, a Charter House staff member. The training will cover reflecting on common misconceptions of what it means to be homeless as well as volunteer responsibilities at the Charter House. All students will receive a volunteer manual to follow along in the presentation and to read in more depth on their own time. You must go to a training session in order to be a volunteer at Charter House. If you plan on attending this training session, fill out a form which is available at middleburycampus.com. If you cannot attend this training and are still interested in getting on the volunteer list for future training sessions, please contact Emily Carfi, chc@middlebury.edu.

Apply for a MAlt Feb 2020 Alternative Break Trip

Deadline: Sunday, Oct. 6 at 11:59 p.m.

Spend Feb Break engaging with social justice issues in specific communities near and far through service learning with a strong emphasis on education and volunteer service. These trips will focus on immigration and asylum seeker's rights, intersections between conservation and indigenous cultures, an ethics-based approach to climate change, public health, disaster relief, and food systems and poverty. Costs of the trips are kept low to encourage all students to apply, and financial aid is available to all participants! Questions? Contact Varsha Vijayakumar '20 and Jack Carew '20 at middalt@middlebury.edu and learn more at go/malt.well as mentoring and work space. The Fellowship and ChangeMaker Program will help these sophomores to grow their personal qualities and to enhance their academic experience at Middlebury.

Participate in the CROP Hunger Walk

Deadline: Sunday, Oct. 6 at 11:59 p.m.

CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. Join hundreds of Addison County residents and Middlebury College students in a fun 2-mile walk to raise money for seven local food shelves and for hunger and sustainability projects around the world. College Chaplain Emerita Laurie Jordan is our honorary chair this year and will speak just before the walk begins at 1:00 p.m. The money we raise goes to Church World Service disaster relief, education, and agricultural sustainability projects around the world. Twenty-five percent of our total goes to these seven Addison County food shelves: John Graham Shelter in Vergennes, H.O.P.E. (Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects), Middlebury Summer Lunch Program, Have-A-Heart Food Shelf in Bristol, Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Vergennes Community Food Shelf and Charter House Coalition (Middlebury Community Suppers). Please contact Ellen McKay, emckay@middlebury.edu, if you have questions. Questions can be directed to Charlotte Sullivan via email at cxsullivan@middlebury.edu or in person at the Innovation Hub at 118 S Main St.

Admissions Office

Host for Discover Middlebury

Event Date: Sunday, Oct. 6–Tuesday, Oct. 8
Office: Admissions

Can you host a prospie during the Discover Middlebury fly-in program? They have a packed schedule so your hosting commitments are minimal. All you need is some space on your floor and a welcoming spirit. We will text you your prospective student or students' contact information in the days leading up to the event. On Sunday, you meet up with them any time before 6 p.m., let them drop off their stuff in your room, and then take them to the dining hall for a bite to eat. That's it! We have our LARGEST group ever with 87 attendees and each one deserves an engaging and enthusiastic host! Visit go/dmhosting to sign up. Contact Natalie Figueroa at discovermiddlebury@middlebury.edu

CenterforCareersandInternships

See these opportunities and more at go/handshake.

HubSpot

Location: Cambridge, Mass.
Term: Summer
Deadline: Oct. 11

The HubSpot Leadership Program is a two-year rotational program for graduating college seniors and is designed as an accelerated path toward marketing leadership. This program is an excellent opportunity to learn first-hand the ins-and-outs of a fast-growing, scale-up tech company.

MiddKid Productions

Location: Sherman Oaks, Calif.
Term: Winter
Deadline: Oct. 27

For students interested in writing, directing or acting for the screen as a possible profession, this is a three week unpaid internship in the writers room of the CBS television show S.W.A.T. as well as shadowing the development company MiddKid Productions, founded by Middlebury College alumnus Shawn Ryan '88. Students will observe (and even contribute) to creative conversations about S.W.A.T. and other shows in development, witness the pre-production, production and post-production aspects of making a television show. Students will be expected to conceive, develop and pitch their own ideas for a television show.

International Rescue Committee

Location: New York, N.Y.
Term: Summer
Deadline: Oct. 31

The IRC Economic Development and Recovery (ERD) Communications Summer Intern will work on economic and livelihoods program implementation in emergency and recovery settings that aligns with the IRC's standards for climate-adaptation, nutrition and gender-sensitivity and inclusiveness. The IRC's ERD programs implemented in over 30 countries range from humanitarian aid delivery through cash transfers and food security stabilization, to climate-smart agro-pastoral production and value chain development, and from enterprise development and employment promotion to resilience strengthening. Prior work experience in Communications, Journalism, Marketing, Social Media Strategy and content creation a plus.

Chambers of US Federal District Court Judge Burroughs

Location: Boston, Mass.
Term: Winter
Deadline: Nov. 1

This is a unique chance to see the inner workings of a federal courtroom with a Midd alum. This opportunity will expose you to assisting the Law Clerks and Law Interns in Chambers with criminal and civil cases. You may be called upon to work on writing and research projects and have virtually daily opportunities to observe courtroom proceedings. Seniors preferred.

New England Review

Location: Middlebury, Vt.
Term: Winter
Deadline: Nov. 1

Winter term interns work in the NER offices on campus, participating in day-to-day operations such as logging manuscripts, creating web posts and assisting with publicity and outreach. A large part of the internship will be focused on producing one or two episodes of the NER Out Loud podcast, including recording and editing audio. Interns will evaluate unsolicited manuscripts independently and discuss these works in weekly editorial meetings. Other tasks are assigned according to student's interests and abilities and the needs of the NER staff. These internships help students develop critical and creative skills in a professional publishing environment.

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Location: New York, N.Y.
Term: Full time starting Summer 2020
Deadline: Dec. 31

The Patient Care Coordinator will work as part of a practice staff team to ensure that each physician clinic is well prepared, well organized and fully utilized. Will serve as a liaison between the patient, family and clinical team during the office visit and coordinate all appropriate tests, procedures, visits, treatments and consultations in accordance with the physicians' orders.

Cogo Labs

Location: Cambridge, Mass.
Term: Summer
Deadline: Jan. 1

We are a start-up accelerator needing entrepreneurial and outgoing Data Analyst Interns for Summer 2020. We're a collaborative team of engineers, analysts and entrepreneurs using innovative tools, big data and intellectual curiosity to build a platform that spins up successful online businesses, fast. You will work directly on projects that help run and grow business lines within our incubator. Project work during your internship will focus on designing and implementing marketing programs, analyzing performance metrics, and using the insights you gain to drive growth in audience engagement and revenue.

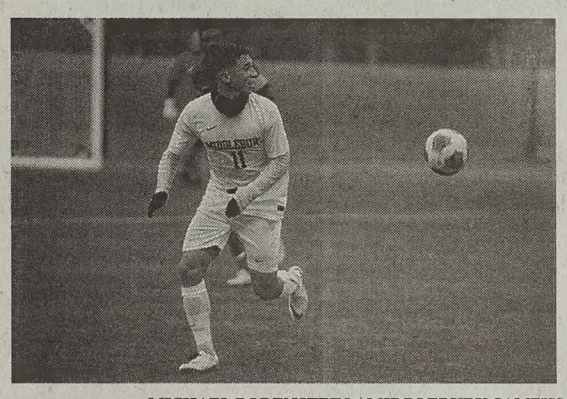
Acadian Asset Management

Location: Boston, Mass.
Term: Summer
Deadline: Mar. 1 (rolling)

Invest Research Interns will have the opportunity to work with senior researchers and portfolio managers. This is a hands-on opportunity for individuals to gain experience at a top-tier quantitative investment management firm. Successful candidates will apply their skills in a dynamic work environment to support the development of sophisticated investment models. This firm was co-founded by Churchill Franklin '71 and employs several Midd alums.

Sports recaps

MEN'S SOCCER



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By ERIK ARVIDSSON
Sports Writer

This past weekend the Panthers faced a daunting test, a home and away double header. The Panthers managed to take down Conn College 2–1 on Saturday in Middlebury, and finished up a solid weekend with a 1–1 draw against Amherst College on Sunday in Amherst, Massachusetts.

On Saturday, the game resulted in a 1–1 tie after regulation. In overtime, **Max Drazen '22** was taken down in the box; **Liam Sloan '22** managed to convert the penalty kick to give the Panther's an exciting walk-off finish.

On Sunday, in a physical and hard fought battle, **Henry Wilhelm '20** put Midd on the board in the 30th minute. Amherst managed to tie the game in the 81st minute and the scoreline would not change.

Ben Potter '20 commented on the team's effort this week.

"I think we showed how deep of a team we are," Potter said. "All 31 of our guys played a role in taking four points this weekend."

The Panthers will face Bates and Maine Maritime in an away double header this upcoming weekend.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Senior Sports Editor

Middlebury hosted the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Women's Tennis New England Regional Championship on the weekend of Sept. 28–29. The Championship included a singles and doubles bracket and players from NESCAC and non-NESCAC schools. The winners of each bracket would receive invitations to the ITA Cup in Georgia happening on Oct. 17–20. Both brackets involved 32 players or pairs.

Unfortunately, no Panthers — only Cardinals — will be attending the ITA Cup. Wesleyan University's Yu and Henderson took the doubles tournament, while Jin took singles.

In doubles, **Heather Boehm '20** and **Maddi Stow '20** ventured as far into the semifinals before falling to Yu and Henderson. The pair of **Skylar Schossberger '20** and **Katherine Hughes '20** played into the quarterfinals.

For singles, Boehm, Schossberger and Hughes played into the second rounds of their brackets.

The Panthers will return to the court on Friday, Oct. 11 when they compete in the NEWITT Tournament at Smith College and Mount Holyoke College.

WOMEN'S GOLF

COURTESY PHOTO

By MICHAEL SEGEL
Sports Writer

It was a big weekend for the women's golf team as the Panthers came out on top in the George Phinney Classic at their home turf, Ralph Myhre Golf Course. They finished six strokes ahead of Amherst with a total of 634 over the two days.

After the first round, Middlebury was on top with 312 shots, five strokes ahead of NESCAC rivals Amherst and Williams. **Chloe Levins '20** led the team, finishing one stroke out of first with 74 and **Katie Murphy '23** followed up last weekend's strong showing with a slight 75 stroke performance on Saturday.

On the second round, Middlebury shot for a 322 in total, again led by Levins who would take home medalist honors for the third time in her collegiate career. She had to do so in a playoff with Amherst's Morgan Yurosek, with the two girls having tied at 153 shots apiece. Both parred the first hole, but on the second hole Levins parred again while Yurosek bogeyed, giving Levins the title.

In other notable performances, Katie Murphy came in third overall with a score of 155 (75–80), **Blake Yaccino '20** in a tie for 13th with a 161 (78–83). **Kayla Li '23** ranked next with a 166 (86–80), while **Anna Zumwinkle '20** finished with a 170 (85–85). Middlebury will compete in the NESCAC Qualifier/Williams Fall Invitational next weekend.

MEN'S TENNIS

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By JACK KAGAN
Sports Editor

The Men's Tennis Team is returning from Waterville, Maine this week after an individual's tournament at the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Regional Championships. Colby College hosted the event featuring teams throughout New England.

Of the draw of 64 players, Middlebury sent six of its own, testing out some new doubles pairs and showcasing younger singles play. Panthers **Stan Morris '22** and **Robby Ward '23** were seeded in the 9–16 group.

The tournament proved to be full of upsets, as only two of the top eight seeds remained by the quarterfinal round. One such upset belonged to Morris who took out the No. 3 seed, Brandeis' David Aizenberg in straight sets. Ward had a strong showing of his own, making it to the quarterfinals before falling to Wesleyan's Noah Lilienthal in a tight three sets.

Despite falling to Tufts' star Boris Sorkin, Morris earned a spot at the ITA Cup on Oct. 17–18 at Berry College in Rome, Georgia.

FIELD HOCKEY

BENJY RENTON / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Senior Sports Editor

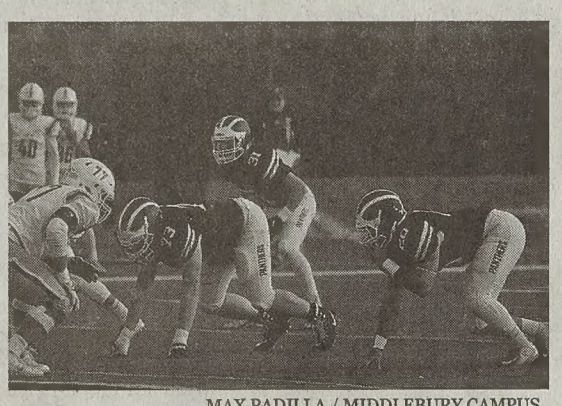
Top-ranked Field Hockey continued to assert their dominance by toppling Skidmore College, Connecticut College, and Amherst College. Holding on tight to the only overall undefeated record in the NESCAC, field hockey now stands at 9–0. The Panthers are also 5–0 in conference play, but aren't the only ones undefeated in that category; No. 5 Tufts University's conference record lies at 3–0.

The Panthers showcased their defense with a 3–0 victory against Skidmore on Tuesday, Sept. 24. Skidmore did not produce a single shot on goal compared to Middlebury's impressive 16.

On Saturday, Sept. 28, an offensive onslaught ensued against Connecticut College when the Panthers breezed by 6–1 and attempted 23 shots on goal. Despite allowing one goal, the defense performed solidly having limited Connecticut College to three shots on goal.

On the following day, Sunday, Sept. 29, the Panthers secured a 2–1 win against Amherst. The Panthers maintained a 2–0 lead until halfway into the third quarter when an Amherst shot deflected off a Middlebury defender and entered the goal.

FOOTBALL



MAX PADILLA / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By LAUREN BOYD
Sports Writer

In a widely anticipated contest, the Middlebury Panthers defeated the Trinity Bantams this past Saturday on their home turf. Improving their record to 3–0, the Panthers took home a clutch win against a NESCAC football powerhouse, tallying the most points out of any other conference team against Trinity, since 2011.

The Panthers appeased their fans from the very first whistle, scoring 12 points right off the bat. Trinity didn't fall far behind, taking the lead with minutes left of the first half, after scoring two touchdowns back to back. By halftime, the Bantams took the 14–12 lead over the Panthers.

A series of interceptions, fourth-down stops, and penalties culminated in the second half for the Panthers' benefit. Characterized by back-and-forth play, the second half became a race to the finish. In the end, Middlebury came out on top, 32–27.

Will Jernigan '21 and **Alex Maldjian '23** controlled the offensive game, Jernigan passing for 127 yards and Maldjian posting 90 yards rushing. Four Panthers recorded interceptions on the game: **Zander Bailey '21**, **Michael Carr '20**, **Kevin Hartley '20** and **Finn Muldoon '23**.

Carter Massengill '20 was named NESCAC special teams player of the week, picking up 12 out of the Panthers' 32 points. **Alex Norton '20** also received NESCAC player of the week honors for his work on the defensive line, tacking two sacks for 16 yards loss.

Next week, the Panthers will take on the Amherst Mammoths for their second away game of the season.

CROSS COUNTRY

BENJY RENTON / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By JORDAN HOWELL
Sports Writer

The Panthers competed in the Purple Valley Classic on Saturday, Sept. 29. The women were able to achieve fifth place while the men captured fourth.

Notable finishers for the women include **Cassie Kearney '22** who finished in eighth place and **Talia Ruxin '20** who finished in tenth place. Kearney's time was 23:39.0 and Ruxin's time was 23:41.2. Notable finishers for the men include **Theo Henderson '20** and **Zander Kessler '22**. Henderson finished in 14th place with a time of 27:10.0, while Kessler was able to come in 21st place with a time of 27:15.6.

Next up on the Panthers' schedule is the Paul Short Invitational and the Keene State Invitational. Both races will occur on Saturday, Oct. 5.

"Starting this week we will be doing threshold and tempo workouts to get some speed in as we progress with our season," **Sophie Nardelli '23** said.

MEN'S GOLF

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By JACK KAGAN
Sports Editor

The Men's Golf team made their way down to Sandy Burr Country Club in Wayland, Massachusetts this past weekend to compete in the NESCAC Fall Qualifier. The top four teams would receive a bid to the conference championship tournament — and the Panthers came up just short with a fifth place finish behind Williams, Tufts, Hamilton and Trinity.

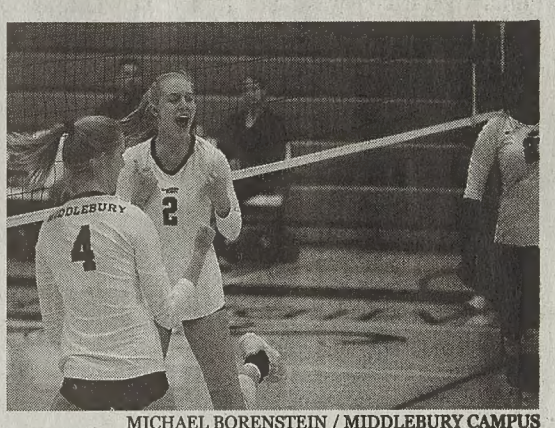
The Panthers finished day one just one stroke behind then-third-place Hamilton, but they slipped on day two as other teams upped their game. Middlebury rounded out the tournament seven strokes behind Trinity, ending their conference title hopes.

Leading the pack for the Panthers squad were **Jordan Bessalel '21** and **Phinneas Choukas '22**, tied for eighth shooting five above par.

Co-captain **Jeffrey Giguere '20** was missed atop the rankings. After finishing day one in third place, he fell to 12th at six above par.

The Panthers will have to motivate the squad after being shut out from NESCACS and look to garner some positive results for the Saratoga Invitational on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 12–13.

VOLLEYBALL



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By HEATHER BOEHM
Sports Editor

Middlebury Volleyball suffered a tough conference loss to Amherst on the road on Friday, Sept. 27. The women fell in a three-set battle with tight scores throughout the first and last sets. Amherst is 10-1 overall with an undefeated NESCAC record.

The Panthers came out swinging, leading the first set 16–12. But Amherst refused to stay silent and retaliated with eight out of the next nine points. The Mammoths capitalized on their momentum and used their home court advantage to seal the win with solid offensive plays.

The Panther defense is looking better than ever, with **Gigi Alper '20** leading the NESCAC in both digs per set and overall digs with a dominating 6.53 and 235 respectively. The next highest in each category was a mere 5.36 from Wesleyan and 202 from Bowdoin.

Maggie Wise '22 represents the offense with 3.32 kills per set, the third highest tally in the conference. **Chellsa Ferdinand '20** also made some waves this weekend with 14 assists, carving out a space for her in MWV history pushing her total number of assists to 1,619, the sixth most in program history.

Middlebury will look to find some redemption this weekend when they travel to Trinity on Friday, Oct. 4 and Endicott on Saturday, Oct. 5.

From DIII to the NFL: Middlebury football alum finds coaching success in the big leagues

By MICHAEL SEGEL
Sports Writer

Middlebury is used to celebrating Bills kicker Steven Hauschka '07, who transferred from Middlebury to go to NC State in 2007. But there's another Middlebury alumnus who has found his way to the NFL — not as a player, but as a coach.

This season, Drew Petzing '09 has begun his sixth year as a coach with the Minnesota Vikings, his first as the wide receiver coach. His former coach Bob Ritter '82 still remembers him as the hard-nosed upperclassman who would volunteer to work in the office when injuries kept him off the field.

Petzing played as a defensive back on the Middlebury football team his first two years before he was sidelined by injuries which ended his playing career. However, the DB's injuries may have been a blessing in disguise because his time off the field is what opened the door to his coaching career.

When he suffered his initial injury at the start of his junior year, he essentially took on the role of an extra assistant coach, spending inordinate amounts of time working in the office and watching film with the rest of the coaching staff. The following year when he was injured again, he took on the role of an official assistant coach, receiving a salary for his work — and perhaps taking the job a little too seriously at times as Ritter remembers.

"I went to school with his dad," Ritter said. "I used to have to pull him aside and say, 'Drew, you have to go to class. Your dad's gonna kill me if you don't graduate on time.'"

Petzing's love for the game continued to blossom even after he finished his time at Middlebury. Petzing spent six years coaching at the collegiate level, three of those at Ivy League institutions. After graduating from Middlebury in 2009 with a degree in economics and a minor in math and philosophy, he began working at Harvard as a volunteer student assistant. Next, he worked at Boston College in 2010 as a recruiting graduate assistant and later as the defensive graduate assistant in 2011. In 2012, he coached outside linebackers at Yale. 2013 was the year Petzing finally made it to the NFL, working as a football operations intern for the Cleveland Browns. The following year he transitioned to Minnesota, the final stop of his career thus far. He worked with running backs in 2014, one of them Jerick McKinnon, who put up 538 rushing yards, good for third among NFL rookies that year. From 2015–2017, Petzing mainly helped wide receiver coach George Stewart and the offensive coaching staff as well. He helped to foster the young talent of Stefon Diggs who led the team in receptions and receiving yards in 2015 despite missing the first three games of the season. In 2017, Petzing had the honor to be a part of a Vikings team that dominantly finished the season at 13–3 and earned a berth in the NFC championship game. In addition to Diggs, Petzing coached the talented Adam Thielen who put up 1276 yards and 91 catches, sending him to the Pro Bowl. In total, in 2016–2017, Diggs and Thielen combined for 3,995 yards, the most for two teammates that season. In 2018, Petzing worked alongside quarterback coach Kevin Stefanski, the same season that Vikings QB Kirk Cousins came in and set a franchise record with 425 completions.

Now, in 2019 Petzing is looking to be a part of a Super Bowl run. The Vikings are off to a 2–1 start, and have a talented core in Kyle Rudolph, Kirk Cousins, Dalvin Cook, as well as Diggs and Theilen.

Petzing, who now lives in Minneapolis with his wife Louisa, has climbed the organizational ranks one step at a time. One thing has been clear about Drew Petzing for a very long time. From being a student-coach at Middlebury to working towards becoming wide receivers coach on the Minnesota Vikings, Petzing has never run from work in any shape or form. He made contributions on the field as long as he could and then continued to take different coaching jobs which have amounted to his crucial job title today. It's a model of resiliency and ambition that should be admired.

COURTESY MINNESOTA VIKINGS TWITTER

Petzing's hard work in college athletics has paid off as he's found his place as a mainstay on the Vikings coaching staff.

COURTESY MINNESOTA VIKINGS COMMUNICATION

Drew Petzing '09 is in his sixth year working with the Minnesota Vikings.

Women's soccer shows up for Fall Family Weekend

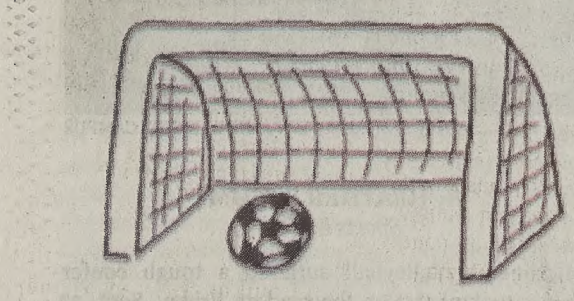
By JENNY LANGERMAN
Sports Writer

Women's soccer came back strong this weekend after a disappointing tie against Hamilton on Sept. 21. The Panthers shut out Connecticut College on Saturday, Sept. 28 and New England College on Sunday, Sept. 29.

Gretchen McGrath '21 was the star of the show offensively against the Conn. College Camels, scoring both of Middlebury's two goals. Notwithstanding one late scoring attempt from the Camels, Middlebury dominated the field.

The Panthers displayed more momentum the following game by attacking the goal often. Shots from **Magnolia Moskun '21.5**, McGrath and **Riley Kinum '22** all found the net, securing the 3-0 win for Middlebury.

With two more wins under their belts, the Panthers remain unbeaten.



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

"Ludicrous as it may sound, Pretzing's injuries may have been a blessing in disguise because his time on the sidelines is what opened the door to his coaching career."